

# **Development of a Tool for Measuring User Experience of Customers of Nordea's Internet Bank**

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<p>Tiivistelmä - Referat – Abstract</p> <p>This thesis introduces a new conceptual perspective on how to measure user experience in Internet banking context. Furthermore, this thesis operationalised user experience of Internet banking by developing a new measurement instrument, Nordea User Experience Questionnaire (NUEQ) for empirical testing. The NUEQ is an online questionnaire, which in this research was implemented in Finnish and Swedish. Two samples were gathered in the current research. The first sample consisted of 351 responses of pilot users who used a new version of Internet-based banking application. The second sample consisted of 479 responses of customers who used an existing version of Internet-based banking application. The longer version of the NUEQ composed of 40 items. The items of the NUEQ were taken from the previously developed user satisfaction and usability inventories and were modified to fit the Internet banking context. Explorative factor analysis was used to reduce the scale length and maintain items, which contain most information about user experience. The shorter and improved version of the NUEQ consisted of 24 items.</p> <p>The explorative factor analysis of the NUEQ indicated a simple structure where a three-factor model accounted for 66,47 % of sample 1 and 54,76 % of sample 2 items variance. Factor analysis identified three underlying user experience dimensions: 1) Satisfaction, 2) Appearance, and 3) Ease of use. The reliabilities of the NUEQ were high in both samples, Cronbach's alpha of all scales were higher than .80. Furthermore, the NUEQ showed statistical significant differences (<math>p &lt; 0.0001</math>) between sample 1 and sample 2 in all dimensions. To summarize this thesis presents a significant progress toward the development of standard measure of user experience in Internet banking context. The study revealed the three-dimensional structure of user experience in Internet banking context. In addition, the outcome of this research was psychometrically tested 24-items reliable user experience questionnaire, the NUEQ. The overall reliability of the NUEQ was .9656 in sample 1 and .9373 in sample 2.</p>			
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<p>Tiivistelmä - Referat - Abstract</p> <p>Tässä tutkielmassa esitellään uusi käsitteellinen näkökulma käyttökokemuksen mittaamiseksi verkkopankkiympäristössä. Lisäksi tutkimuksessa operationalisoitiin verkkopankkikäyttäjien käyttökokemus kehittämällä mittari, Nordea käyttökokemus kyselylomake (Nordea User Experience Questionnaire, NUEQ). Käyttökokemuskysely toteutettiin sähköisenä kyselylomakkeena, joka sisälsi sekä suomenkielisen että ruotsinkielisen version. Tutkimuksen aineisto kerättiin kahdesta otoksesta. Ensimmäinen otos koostui 351 pilottikäyttäjän vastauksesta, jotka käyttivät verkkopankkisovelluksen uutta versiota. Toinen otos sisälsi 479 vastausta asiakkailta, jotka käyttivät nykyistä verkkopankkisovellusta. Käyttökokemusmittarin pidempi versio koostui 40 kysymyksestä. Mittarin kysymykset olivat peräisin aikaisemmista käyttäjätyytyväisyys- ja käytettävyysskyselyistä ja ne muokattiin verkkopankkiympäristöön sopiviksi. Eksploratiivista faktorianalyysiä käytettiin mittarin lyhentämisessä ja sellaisten kysymysten säilyttämisessä, jotka sisälsivät eniten informaatiota käyttökokemuksesta. Lyhyempi ja edelleen kehitetty versio käyttökokemusmittarista koostui 24 kysymyksestä.</p> <p>Käyttökokemusmittarin eksploratiivinen faktorinalyysi osoitti, että molempiin aineistoihin soveltui parhaiten kolmen vinorotatoidun faktorin malli, joka selitti 66,47 % ensimmäisen aineiston ja 54,76 % toisen aineiston muuttujien varianssista. Faktorinalyysi osoitti kolme latenttia käyttökokemusdimensioita: 1) Tyytyväisyys 2) Ulkoasu 3) Helppokäyttöisyys. Mittarin reliabiliteetti oli korkea molemmissa otoksissa, kaikkien mittareiden Cronbachin alfa oli suurempi kuin .80. Lisäksi mittari osoitti tilastollisesti erittäin merkitseviä eroja (<math>p &lt; 0.0001</math>) ensimmäisen otoksen ja toisen otoksen välillä. Yhteenvetona tämä tutkielma esitti merkittävän kehitysaskelen standardoidun verkkopankkikäyttökokemusmittarin kehittämiseen. Tutkimus paljasti verkkopankkikäyttökokemuksen kolmen dimension rakenteen. Lisäksi tutkimuksen tuloksena syntyi psykometrisesti testattu 24 kysymystä sisältävä luotettava käyttökokemusmittari. Kokonaismittarin reliabiliteetti oli .9656 ensimmäisessä otoksessa ja .9373 toisessa otoksessa.</p>			
Avainsanat – Nyckelord <b>Käyttökokemus, sähköinen pankkitoiminta, käytettävyyden arviointi, mittaaminen, mittari</b>			
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Antero Meuronen

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# 1 INTRODUCTION

In the recent years there has been explosion of Internet-based electronic banking applications (Liao & Cheung, 2003). Beckett, Hower & Howcroft (2000) states that the emergence of new forms of technology has created highly competitive market conditions for bank providers. However, the changed market conditions demand for banks to better understanding of consumers' needs (Beckett et al., 2000).

Liao et al. (2003) stress that the success in Internet banking will be achieved with tailored financial products and services that fulfill customer' wants, preferences and quality expectations. Mattila (2001) concedes that customer satisfaction is a key to success in Internet banking and banks will use different media to customize products and services to fit customers' specific needs in the future. Liao et al. (2003) suggest that consumer perceptions of transaction security, transaction accuracy, user friendliness, and network speed are the critical factors for success in Internet banking. From this perspective, Internet banking includes many challenges for human computer interaction (HCI) (Hiltunen, Heng, & Helgesen, 2004).

Hiltunen et al (2004) have remarked that there are at least two major HCI challenges in Internet banking. The first challenge is related to the problem how to increase the number of services of Internet banking and simultaneously guarantee the quality of service for individual customers. The second challenge is related to the problem how to understand customer's needs, translate them into targeted content and present them in a personalized way in usable user interface. The HCI challenges of Internet banking have been poorly studied. Hiltunen et al. (2004) imply that Internet banking research will concentrate more on HCI factors in the future.

Recently, Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) emphasize that now is an ideal time for HCI researchers to analyse user satisfaction, because there is growing interest in how to attract and increase the number of online customers in e-business and e-commerce. Lindgaard et al. (2003) stress that HCI researchers should reveal a structure of user satisfaction, determine how to evaluate it and conclude how it is related to the overall user experience of online customers. However, they admit that research on user satisfaction and user experience related to e-commerce and e-business is its infancy. The current research aimed to clarify the dim concept of user experience. The main goal was to operationalize this concept in the context of Internet banking. In other words, the research objective was to develop a measurement tool to allow the user experience of Internet banking customers to be evaluated and quantitatively measured.

The Introduction chapter is divided into three subsections. First, the concept of electronic banking is defined and the Internet banking situation in Finland is clarified. Second, the concepts of usability, user satisfaction, and user experience are defined and user satisfaction measurements are described. Finally, the research questions of this study are reported in section three.

## 1.1 ELECTRONIC BANKING

The objective of this section is to define a concept of electronic banking, to describe its benefits and challenges for banks and to clarify a changing Internet banking situation of Finland. The electronic banking will be defined in the next section.

### 1.1.1 DEFINITION OF ELECTRONIC BANKING

The concept of electronic banking has been defined in many ways (e.g. Daniel, 1999). According to Karjaluoto (2002) electronic banking is a construct that consists of several distribution channels. Daniel (1999) defines electronic banking as the delivery of banks' information and services by banks to customers via different delivery platforms that can be used with different terminal devices such as a personal computer and a mobile phone with browser or desktop software, telephone or digital television. The different forms of electronic banking are summarized in Table 1.

**Table 1. Different forms of banking in electronic banking (modified from Daniel 1999)**

Form of banking	Description
PC banking	The customer installs banking software on his or her personal computer. The customer has access to his or her account with that specific software.
Internet banking	Customer can access his or her bank account via the Internet using a PC or mobile phone and web-browser.
TV-based banking	The use of satellite or cable to deliver account information to the TV screens of customers.
Telephone-based banking	Customers can access their bank and account via SMS and as well as by ordinary phone using services of interactive voice responses (IVR).

It should be noted that electronic banking is a larger concept than banking via the Internet (Karjaluoto, 2002). The Internet is a main delivery channel for electronic banking and its value to customers and banks is continuously increasing (Karjaluoto, 2002; Mattila, 2001).

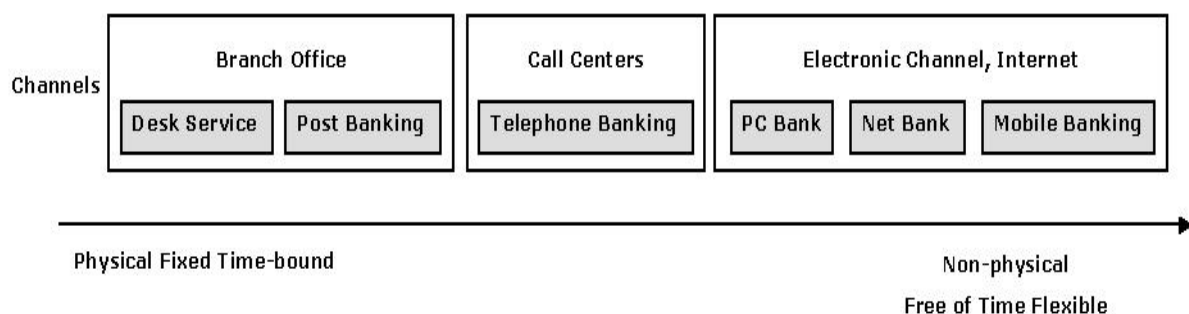
In the current study, the term Internet banking refers to retail banking carried out by a customer using an Internet-based banking application with a personal computer and web-browser. The services included in the scope of the term consist of Household customer service portfolio (payments, accounts, investments etc.) excluding, e.g. the services offered to companies. Diverse banking channels will be described in detail from customer's point of view in the next section.

### 1.1.2 CUSTOMERS AS USERS OF DIFFERENT BANKING CHANNELS

Hadden & Whalley (2002) observe that customers often simultaneously used many banking channels. Hadden & Whalley (2002) point out that a challenge for banks is how to connect with customers and provide financial services to them through the right channels, at the right time and in the right way.

The HCI-related challenges in Internet banking are related to business interaction between the bank and customer. Hadden & Whalley (2002) stress that it is crucial that the banking interaction is suited the customer's life situation. From this perspective it is important to give customers freedom to choose the most appropriate channel that best suits their preferences. In addition, the type of business affects customers' choice of channel. According to Hiltunen, Laukka, & Luomala (2002), customers' channel preferences vary between countries because of cultural differences, use-habits and legislation.

The business interaction between the bank and the customer takes place through different channels (Hiltunen et al., 2002). According to Hiltunen et al. (2002) the interaction can be described as a continuum, which is described in Figure 1.



**Figure 1.** The different banking channels presented as a continuum where left side channels are limited by time and place and channels on the right side are more free from these constraints (Hiltunen, et al 2002).

The physical interaction between the bank and customer takes place in branch offices, which are limited in both time and location. By contrast Internet banking and mobile banking are the most flexible banking channels that are more free from constraints such as time and place (Hiltunen et al., 2002). It has been proposed that a branch office is the primary channel for

purchasing many financial products because it offers the customer a secure physical location for the transaction of complex financial business with real people (Hadden et al., 2002)

However, The Finnish Banker's Association (2004b) concludes that Finnish retail banking differs in many ways from typical retail banking in Europe. In Finland, the current trend is the movement from traditional branch banking to electronic banking, which provides many benefits, challenges, and opportunities for the whole banking sector (Karjaluo, 2002)

From the customer's point of view, Internet banking offers new value to customer because it makes available a full range of services that are not offered in branch offices (Karjaluo, 2002). Modern Internet technology makes it possible to create customized banking services for every individual customer (Mattila, 2001). According to Daniel (1999), customers' value features in Internet banking such as convenience, increased choice of access to the bank, improved control over their banking activities and finances, ease of use, speed and security.

From the banks perspective the main benefits of electronic banking are cost savings, reaching new segments of the population, efficiency, cross selling, third-party integration, and customer satisfaction (Hiltunen et al., 2004; Joseph, 1999). Wah (1999) remarks that the success of banks operating via the Internet depends on their ability to attract and keep customers. Sheshunoff (2000) admits that banks implement Internet banking services in an attempt to create powerful barriers to customers exiting. In general, it has been reported that Internet banking saves time and money, provides convenience and accessibility, and has a positive impact on customer satisfaction (Karjaluo, 2002; Mattila, 2001). To summarize, Internet banking offers many benefits both to banks and their customers (Karjaluo, 2002; Mattila, 2001).

Despite of these benefits Internet banking includes many challenges. HCI-related challenge of Internet banking is how to satisfy new online customer segments. Hiltunen et al. (2002) argue that a key factor in this competition for online customers is the quality of customer service, which includes usable user interfaces of Internet banking. From this perspective the usability of Internet banking becomes an essential factor in the competition for online customers. It can be stated that it is crucial to measure the user experience of the user interface in order to estimate the quality of online customer service. Usability, user satisfaction and measurements will be clarified in detail in the Usability of Internet Banking section. In the next section, the changing Internet banking situation in Finland will be reported.

### 1.1.3 INTERNET BANKING IN FINLAND

The Finnish Banker's Association (2004a) reports that banks have made more than 2.8 million electronic banking agreements with their customers based on statistics for 2002, and commented that electronic banking services have been offered to retail customers by Finnish banks for more than 20 years. It has been argued that Finland and Finnish banks are world leaders in the use of banking technology and Internet banking in particular (Karjaluo, 2002; The\_Finnish\_Banker's\_Association, 2004a). Karjaluo (2002) notes that technology, in particular the Internet, has been a key driving force behind the changes in the banking services.

However, the expansion of electronic banking and Internet banking in particular could not have taken place in Finland without willing customers (The\_Finnish\_Banker's\_Association, 2004a). It is said that electronic banking services has been easy to implement and provide in Finland because Finns have adopted financial networks as part of their everyday life (The\_Finnish\_Banker's\_Association, 2004a). It has been stated that Finns are eager to quickly adopt a new technology (The\_Finnish\_Banker's\_Association, 2004a). Their enthusiasm for technology can be observed from statistics, which reveal that at the end of 2003 there were 4.7 million mobile phone connections in Finland. In addition, there were 9.4 Internet connections, including both broadband and modem connections, in per 100 inhabitant (Tilastokeskus, 2004a, 2004b). The Internet usage has steadily increased in Finland (Figure 2). The Finnish Bankers Association (2004a) reports that in 2004 71 % of Finns sometimes used the Internet.

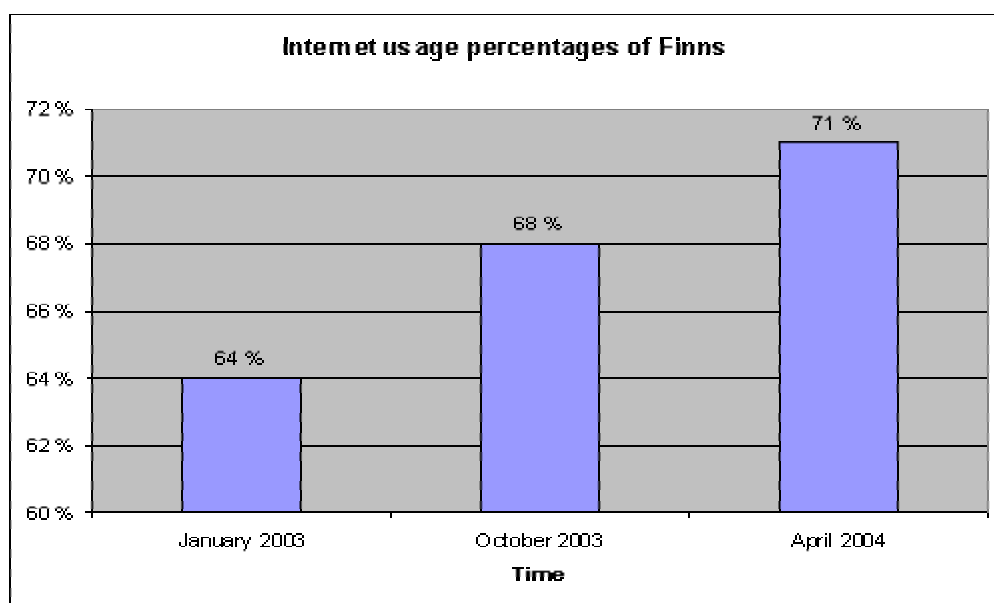
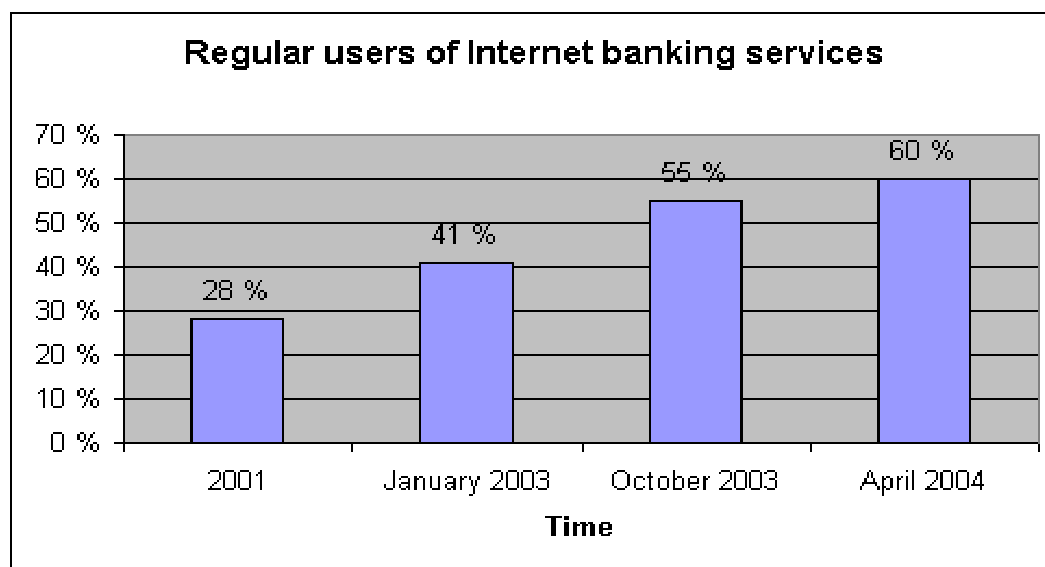


Figure 2. Internet usage among Finnish people (Finnish Banker's Association 2004a).

The proportion of Finns who access the Internet from home is 70 % according to Statistics Finland (Nurmela & Sirkiä, 2004) but a lower figure of 56 % was reported by the Finnish Banker's Association (2004b). While Statistics Finland states that over 50 % of Finns browse the Internet from the work place Nurmela et al., (2004), the Finnish Banker's Association (2004b) reports the figure be one person in three. According to Nurmela et al., (2004) over 80 % of Finns aged between 15 and 74 years have occasionally used the Internet. However, fewer than 50 % of them were daily users of Internet (Nurmela et al., 2004).

Mattila (2001) argues that the adoption of Internet banking in Finland is one of the highest in the world. Nurmela et al., (2004) report that Finns who use the Internet at least sometimes and belong to the age group of 15 to 74 years old, considered Internet banking safety. However, almost 50 % of them reported that they do not buy a product via Internet even though they consider the product very interesting (Nurmela et al., 2004). The number of users of Internet banking services in Finland has continually increased (Figure 3). Altogether 60 % of the age group of 15 to 74, i.e. 2,400,000 persons, regularly uses banking services via the Internet.



**Figure 3. Percentages of regular user of Internet banking services (Finnish Banker's Association 2004a).**

Many factors have affected to success of Internet banking in Finland. Firstly, frequently used methods of payment of Finns are suitable for Internet banking. It has been reported that account transfers and cards are the most frequently used methods of payment in Finland (Finnish Banker's Association, 2004a). In addition, the payment of invoices and monitoring of account activity are the most used banking services in Finland, which suite well for Internet banking channel (Finnish Banker's Association, 2004a).

Secondly, banking services are easily accessible and Internet payments are not dependent on the opening hours of bank branches (Finnish Banker's Association, 2004a). Thirdly, the

availability of banking services has improved in recent years (Finnish Banker's Association, 2004a). Banking via Internet can be done using different terminal devices for example with personal computer or mobile phone and web browser or PC banking software.

The success of Internet banking in Finland has created a competitive market for banks. Karjaluoto (2002) states that banks concentrate heavily on managing and satisfying customers with different delivery channels, particularly channels via the Internet. In addition, it has been said that online customers prefer usable and accessible services that they feel comfortable and secure with (Hiltunen et al., 2004). Internet banking services rely on appropriate methods to measure the current level of customer user experience to make improvements.

The present research attempted to address the problem of how to analyse and measure customers' user experience of Internet banking services from the perspective of usability and aesthetics. In the following sections concepts such as usability, user satisfaction, usability of Internet banking and user experience, which are crucial for measuring user experience will be analysed in detail.

## 1.2 USABILITY OF INTERNET BANKING

The usability of Internet banking is a poorly studied field in the academic literature because majority of studies relate to usability of Internet banking are carried out by consultants and results and reports are mostly confidential. This fact makes it difficult for a researcher to know what has been studied recently in the field of usability of Internet banking. However, Johnson (1996) emphasizes that trust, privacy, the system's conceptual model and the nature of feedback are the crucial factors concerning the usability of Internet banking. These essential factors will be examined in detail in the Internet banking guideline presented by Serco Usability Services (2000). First, the conceptual model of systems, which is related to two usability attributes perceived controllability and efficiency, will be clarified. Second, the nature of feedback will be examined. Finally, the concept of trust and privacy will be analysed in detail.

From the perceived controllability perspective Internet banking design guidelines of Serco (2000) state that users often have high expectations of Internet banking sites and they are frustrated if they have to call up with telephone for further information that they cannot find from the service. Furthermore, the guidelines (2000) argue that Internet-based banking applications should provide as much functionality as possible to enable users to find all the information they require and complete their enquires online. In addition, Internet banking is perceived as a serious business and users do not visit Internet banking sites for entertainment.



For these reasons, it can be argued that controllability is a key factor in the usability of Internet banking.

Another aspect of the conceptual model of the system relates to perceived efficiency. The Internet banking design guidelines of Serco (2000) state that the user's main reason for using Internet banking is the speed of the service. According to the guidelines (2000) online financial services should allow users quick access to information they want, the application form should be as short as possible and orientation cues should be provided to users when they are progressing through multiple screen forms. In addition, the guidelines (2000) note that offered interactive features that are provided by Internet-based banking applications should be relevant to the goals and concerns of customers. From this perspective, the perceived efficiency of Internet-based applications is an important factor for the usability of Internet banking.

The nature of feedback is also an important factor for the usability of Internet banking (Johnson, 1996; Serco\_Usability\_Services, 2000). The guidelines of Serco (2000) stress that a clear feedback should always be provided on financial transactions that have been carried out online. Furthermore, the guidelines (2000) remark that key words that are clear to users should be used in Internet-based banking applications.

The concept of trust and privacy are essential factors for the usability of Internet banking (Johnson, 1996; Serco\_Usability\_Services, 2000). The guidelines of Serco (2000) stress that clear clues on the security measures of the online services should be provided to customers because they are often concerned about the privacy of information when they enter online.

Johnson (1996) points out that a core usability challenge for Internet banking is to provide basic financial services in an easy to use manner. In other words, the basic financial services should be provided in such a way that users perceive the Internet-based banking application as trustworthy, and easy and efficient to use.

To summarize perceived controllability, efficiency, trustworthiness and the nature of feedback are key factors for the usability of Internet banking. Johnson (1996) stress that assessing differences in customers' perceptions of usability will produce useful information that is essential in the design of future Internet banking user interfaces. In the next section the concept of usability will be defined in order to clarify how user satisfaction and user experience are related to usability.

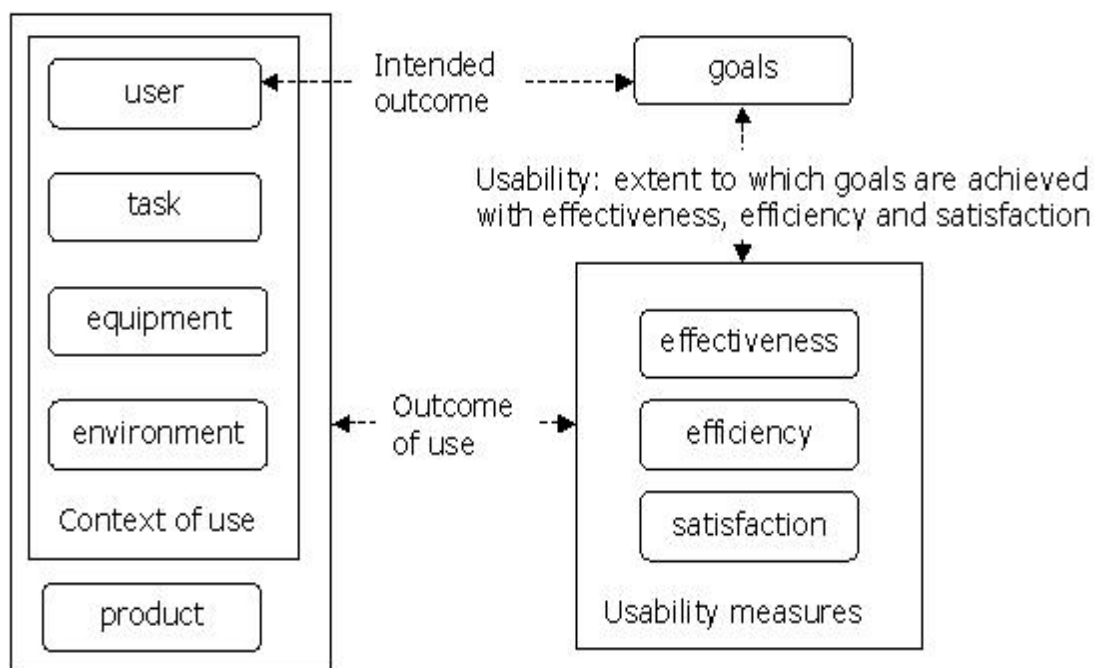
### 1.2.1 DEFINITIONS OF USABILITY

In this section the concept of usability will be defined. In addition, those usability attributes that were selected in the present research to define the concept of customer user experience in the Internet banking context will be clarified.

The concept of usability has been defined in many ways in the academic literature (Nielsen, 1993; Shneiderman & Plaisant, 2005). Nielsen (1993) stresses that usability is not a single, one-dimensional property of a user interface, and argues that usability could be defined by using five attributes, which are learnability, efficiency, memorability, errors and satisfaction. A formal and stricter definition of the term is derived from the ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard, which defines usability as:

*The extent to which a product can be used by specified users to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction in a specified context of use.*

The ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard reports that an user carries out tasks with a product in the context of use, and usability measures can be used as indicators how the user achieves quality of use by using the product (Figure 4).



**Figure 4. An user carries out tasks with a product in the context of use, and usability measures can be used as indicators how the user achieves quality of use by using the product. (ISO 9241-11(1998, 3)).**

The ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard includes three usability attributes, namely effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction. All usability attributes can be assessed with objective and subjective usability measures (Nielsen, 1993; ISO 9241-11, 1998). These measurements will be clarified more detail in the next section. The HCI literature has traditionally concerned

merely effectiveness and efficiency and satisfaction has been seen as a by-product of good usability (Lindgaard et al., 2003). In addition, the term satisfaction is a quite weak term because it can mean “adequate” or “just good enough” interaction of users.

In the current research, the usability attribute of effectiveness in the ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard was excluded from definition of user experience because it can be measured much more effectively with objective measures and this research was conducted with subjective measures. The usability attributes of efficiency and satisfaction, which were defined by Nielsen (1993) and the ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard, were examined in this research with subjective questionnaire measures. The ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard defined efficiency as:

*Resources expended in relation to the accuracy and completeness with which users achieve goals.*

In addition, the standard defined satisfaction as:

*Freedom from discomfort, and positive attitudes towards the use of the product*

Furthermore, learnability and memorability of Nielsen (1993) were included in an operational definition of user experience in Internet banking. In the following section the concepts of user satisfaction and user experience are analysed in detail.

## **1.2.2 MEASUREMENTS OF USER SATISFACTION**

In this section, the concepts of user satisfaction and user experience will be analysed and the user satisfaction and usability scales, which were utilized in this research, are introduced.

First, the concepts user satisfaction and user experience are defined based on previous research. The theoretical framework of user experience used in the current study will be introduced in the next section. Second, psychometric details of user satisfaction and usability scales are reported. Hence, a typical subjective measurement questionnaire is referred to as a scale, which refers to a composite measurement which based on responses to a number of items (Likert or semantically differential scale), and which tries to reveal dimensions of theoretical variables that cannot assess by direct means (DeVellis, 2003; Lewis, 2002). In the current study an item refers to a statement for which a participant selects a level of response (Lewis, 2002).

The concept of user satisfaction has been used since the early 1980 (Bailey & Pearson, 1983; Ives, Olson, & Baroudi, 1983) and the end user computing satisfaction have been studied since the 1980 (Bailey & Pearson, 1983; J. Chin, Diehl, & Norman, 1988; Ives et al., 1983; Rivard & Huff, 1988; Rushinek & Rushinek, 1986). Bailey et al. (1983) state that several factors affect the user satisfaction and it can be seen as a bi-dimensional attitude. The user

satisfaction can be seen sum of user's feeling and attitudes toward several factors that affect the usage situation (Bailey et al., 1983).

Recently, there has been growing interest in user experience (Hiltunen et al., 2002; Lindgaard & Dudek, 2003; Wilson & Sasse, 2004), which can be seen as much larger concept than user satisfaction. User experience has become an important factor in e-business because the end user often pays for the majority of new products and services, which indicates that new products characteristics such as perceived usability, usefulness, appeal and value of money must be matched or exceeded with user expectations toward the product (Wilson & Sasse, 2004). From this perspective, assessing the user experience is essential for many technology products and services (Wilson & Sasse, 2004).

Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) state that user experience consists of some senses of "satisfaction". They define user satisfaction as a subjective sum of the interactive experience. Recently, Tractinsky, Katz, & Ikar (2000) show that perceived aesthetics and perceived usability correlated strongly with each other. They argue that "beauty" or "appeal" is linked to the perceived usability, and consequently what is seen as beautiful is also perceived as usable. However, Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) argue that those business to consumer (B2C) web sites which got high appeal scores but low perceived usability score from users yielded very high satisfaction, but low perceived usability scores, suggesting that what is perceived as beautiful need not also be perceived to be usable.

Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) emphasize that aesthetics, emotion, expectation, likeability and usability all influence the interactive experience, but their significance depends on the current situation. Furthermore, they argue that usability is a important factor in experiencing interactive B2C sites, but it is not known is user interaction with B2C sites whether usability- or satisfaction driven. Their results suggested that web designers should pay attention to both visual appeal and usability. Bailey et al., (1983) report that the HCI research needs a clear definition of user satisfaction, including a complete and valid set of factors and instrument that measures this phenomenon. Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) add that HCI researchers should formulate a clear user experience notion, where the relationship between satisfaction, appeal, perceived and actual usability would be determined. User satisfaction and usability measurements will be next clarified.

In general, user interfaces can be evaluated in many ways (J. Chin et al., 1988). In addition, it has been stated that each component of usability such as effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction can be examined by using either objective or subjective measures (Nielsen, 1993; ISO 9241-11, 1998). User satisfaction has mainly been examined with subjective

measurements such as a multiple-item user questionnaire (J. Chin et al., 1988; Lewis, 2002; Lindgaard & Dudek, 2003). Furthermore, the subject satisfaction, which is measured in user test, has been also used as a indicator of user satisfaction, but results are contradictory (Notes & Swan, 2003). Recently, other approaches such as the objective measurement of user experience have been introduced (Wilson & Sasse, 2004).

Wilson & Sasse (2004) show that in some cases objective psychophysiological measures such as skin conductance, heart rate and blood volume pulse can reveal users' responses toward product which they are either not aware of, or cannot recall at subjective assessment session after the test. However, there are several problems in using physiological measures to analyse user satisfaction and user experience. For example, data analysis and learning to use the equipment are time consuming, and equipment and sensors are financial costly (Wilson & Sasse, 2004). Furthermore, interpretation of user's mental process and experiences contain difficult problems even in studies where a clear cause and effect relationship has been revealed (Ward & Marsden, 2004). Because of these problems of physiological measures, this research concentrated on examining how the user experience of Internet banking can be evaluated by using subjective measures.

Many studies have concentrated on developing tools to measuring user satisfaction (J. Chin et al., 1988; Rivard & Huff, 1988), user information satisfaction (W. Chin & Lee, 2000; Ives et al., 1983) and usability (Lin, Choong, & Salvendy, 1997). In general, the user satisfaction measurements have been questionnaire scales for which either a Likert or a semantic differential scale have been used. In this research, four psychometrically tested usability and user satisfaction questionnaire measurements formed the basis of a developed user experience questionnaire, Nordea User Experience Questionnaire (NUEQ). None of the questions of previous inventories were used directly and they were modified to fit the Internet banking context. The international usability questionnaire measurement instruments were the QUIS, PUTQ, PSSUQ and SUMI. Furthermore, the developed NUEQ's scale included questions from Nordea's previous user questionnaire. These measurement instruments will be introduced below. The longer version of NUEQ's scale structure is described in detail in Appendix 1.

## **QUIS**

The first measurement instrument used in the current research was the Questionnaire for User Interface Satisfaction (QUIS). J. Chin et al., (1988) developed a QUIS instrument for measuring user satisfaction of the human computer interface at the University of Maryland. The QUIS has gone through several psychometric development phases and shorter (47 items)

and longer versions (126 items) of the QUIS are available. The longer QUIS version 5.0 was used in this research as an inspirational source.

The QUIS 5.0 consisted of six scales, which are overall reactions to the software, screen, terminology, system information, learning and system capabilities. The first scale relating to overall reactions to the software consisted of six questions and the other five scales include 20 questions per each. The scaling of items ranges from 1 to 9 and additional "no answer" option is available. The endpoints of the scales are anchored by pairs of adjectives (e.g. difficult / easy). The adjective pair is always positioned so that the scale goes from negative on the left to positive to right. The overall reliability of QUIS 5.0 is high, Cronbach alpha = .94, but no separate reliability measures of the five-subscale have been reported. The questions from the QUIS used in this study are reported in the Methods section.

### **PUTQ**

The second measurement instrument used in the current research was the Purdue Usability Testing Questionnaire (PUTQ). The developers of PUTQ criticized the QUIS because it primarily measures user's satisfaction toward a user interface (Lin et al., 1997). In contrast, they argue that usability of the software systems not only user's satisfaction can be measured with the PUTQ.

Lin et al., (1997) developed a 100-items measure for which they postulate a priori eight different categories which were compatibility, consistency, flexibility, learnability, minimal action, minimal memory load, perceptual limitation and user guidance. The semantically differential scale, where items ranges from 1 to 7 and additional "no applicable" option was available, were used in the PUTQ. The endpoints of the scales were anchored by pairs of statements (e.g. negative adjective / positive adjective).

They emphasize that the eight factors of the PUTQ are relevant to HCI, but they did not conduct a factor analysis of their data, which would have given an empirical results on how the items are loaded on these eight factors. The development process of the PUTQ is based on an assumption that user satisfaction is correlated with other usability measures such as effectiveness, efficiency and learnability. In the factor analysis context it means that the factors will correlate with each other and oblique rotated methods should be used in factor analysis. This was also a basic assumption in the current research. The questions from the PUTQ used in this study are reported in the Methods section.

## **PSSUQ**

The third measurement instrument used in the current research was the Post Study System Usability Questionnaire (PSSUQ) which was originally developed in an international IBM project in the late 1980 entitled SUMS (System usability MetricS) (Lewis, 2002). The current version of the PSSUQ is a 19-item instrument designed for the purpose of assessing users' perceived satisfaction with their computer systems (Lewis, 2002). Each item of the PSSUQ consists of a 7-point Likert scale with which the users rate the responses. The factor analysis was conducted to the PSSUQ using data from 5 years of usability studies and the results indicated a three-factor structure that was consistent with initially described factor structure (Lewis, 2002). The PSSUQ consists of factors which were named System usefulness, Information quality and Interface quality.

The following questions examples are used in PSSUQ:

- Overall, I am satisfied with how easy it is to use this system
- It was simple to use this system
- I could effectively complete the tasks and scenarios quickly using this system
- It was easy to learn this system
- It was easy to find the information I needed

The overall reliability of the PSSUQ consisting of 19 items was 0.96. The reliabilities of the factors System usefulness, Information quality and Interface quality were 0.96, 0.92, 0.83, respectively. It should be noted that many items of PSSUQ were used simultaneously in several sum variables which resulted in sum variables being highly correlated with each other. The questions from the PSSUQ used in this study are reported in the Methods section.

## **SUMI**

The fourth measurement instrument used in the current research was the Software Usability Measurement Inventory (SUMI). Kirakowski & Corbett developed the SUMI questionnaire, in the early 1990 at the University College of Cork in Ireland, to measure a user perceptions of software usability (Lewis, 2002). The SUMI consists of a 50-item questionnaire which has undergone through several psychometric tests (van Veenendaal, 1998). Each question of the SUMI is answered with "agree", "undecided" or "disagree". The SUMI measures global usability with five subscales: Efficiency, Affect, Helpfulness, Control and Learnability. The following questions examples are used with the SUMI:

- This software responds too slowly to inputs

- The instructions and prompts are helpful
- Working with this software is satisfactory
- The way that system information is presented is clear and understandable
- I think this software is consistent

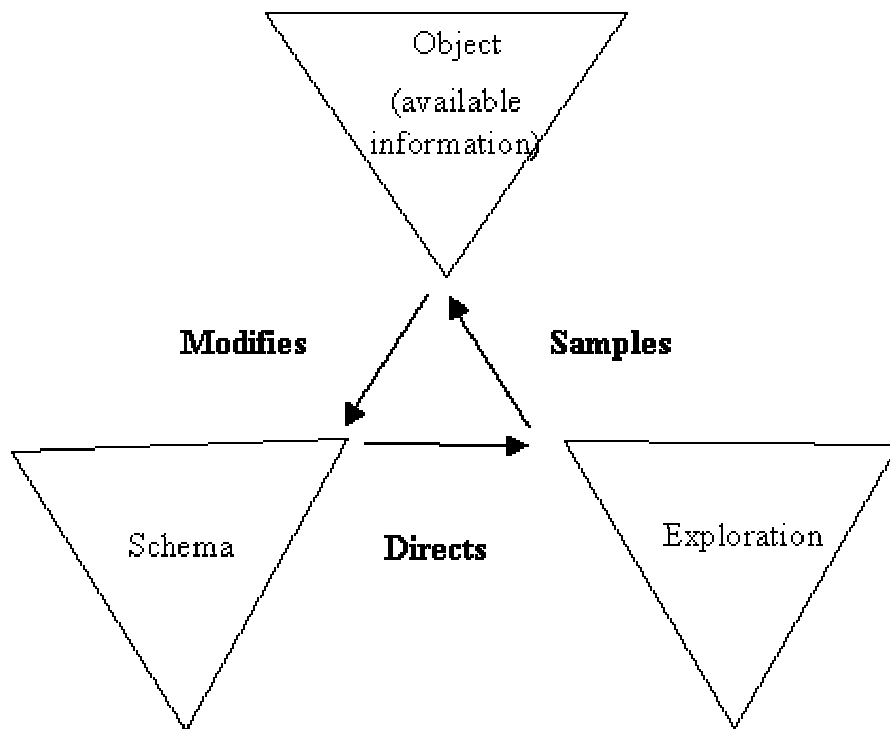
The biggest strength of the SUMI is that it has been used to develop a standardized database consisting of over 2000 usability profiles of different kinds of applications. The standardized database enables the usability of any application to be compared with the average usability rating of over 2000 applications. Furthermore, the SUMI questionnaire is available in English (UK and US), French, German, Dutch, Spanish, Italian, Greek and Swedish (van Veenendaal, 1998). To summarize, the SUMI is the only available questionnaire of the assessment of usability of software, which have been developed, validated and standardized on a European wide basis. (van Veenendaal, 1998). However, the SUMI questionnaire uses a three-point Likert-scale, for which the reliability can be low because item's a lack of variance (Metsämuuronen, 2002). The questions from SUMI used in this study are reported in the Methods section.

The NUEQ's scale that was created in this study from the above user satisfaction and usability scales included 40 items. The structure of the NUEQ is described in detail in the Methods section while the structure of longer version of NUEQ's scale is presented in Appendix 2. In the next section the concept of user experience will be clarified.

### **1.2.3 DEFINITION OF USER EXPERIENCE**

In this section user experience concept is defined and its components, which were adapted to the current research, are described. The user experience is affected by user expectations toward to the service and service provider and user's perceptions of interaction with the service. First, role of expectations in user experience is described. Second, role of user's perceptions in user experience is clarified. W. Chin & Lee (2000) point out that user's a priori and post hoc product usage perceptions are affected by his or her expectations and desires. Furthermore, it has been argued that user experience cannot be accounted without take into account how expectations affect user's perception (Hiltunen et al., 2002). According to Neisser (1976) human perception of an object is a constructive process, which consisted of stages such as exploration, perception of stimuli from the object and schemata. Neisser's (1976) perception cycle is depicted in Figure 5.





**Figure 5. Neisser's (1976, 21) perceptual cycle where a schema of an user (mental model) directs exploration of information. As a result the user selects samples from objects and selection modifies the original schema of the user.**

Neisser (1976) argues that user's perception can be seen as an out put of the whole cycle. Overall, a creation of user perception begins when a user's schema directs his or her information explorations from the environment. The user takes samples of available information and provides results of exploration, which modifies his or her original schema. The user's schema is often termed as a mental model in HCI literature (Norman, 1991; Otter & Johnson, 2000; Sinkkonen, Kuoppala, Parkkinen, & Vastamäki, 2002).

From this perspective the users will always have expectations of the system and its usage, which will affect their information gathering and user experience before they have even used the system. It has been argued that a user's previous experiences with the same or a similar service affects user perception and experience (Hiltunen et al., 2002). Furthermore, Nielsen (2000) claims that Internet users acquire their usability expectations about good usability from other Internet sites and then they compare all sites and Internet services to these expectations. In addition, the service expectations of users are affected by what they have heard from their peers and the media (Hiltunen et al., 2002; Sinkkonen et al., 2002). Lindgaard & Dudek (2003) argue that user expectations with user prior experience and knowledge of the organization would affect user satisfaction ratings of business to consumer web sites.

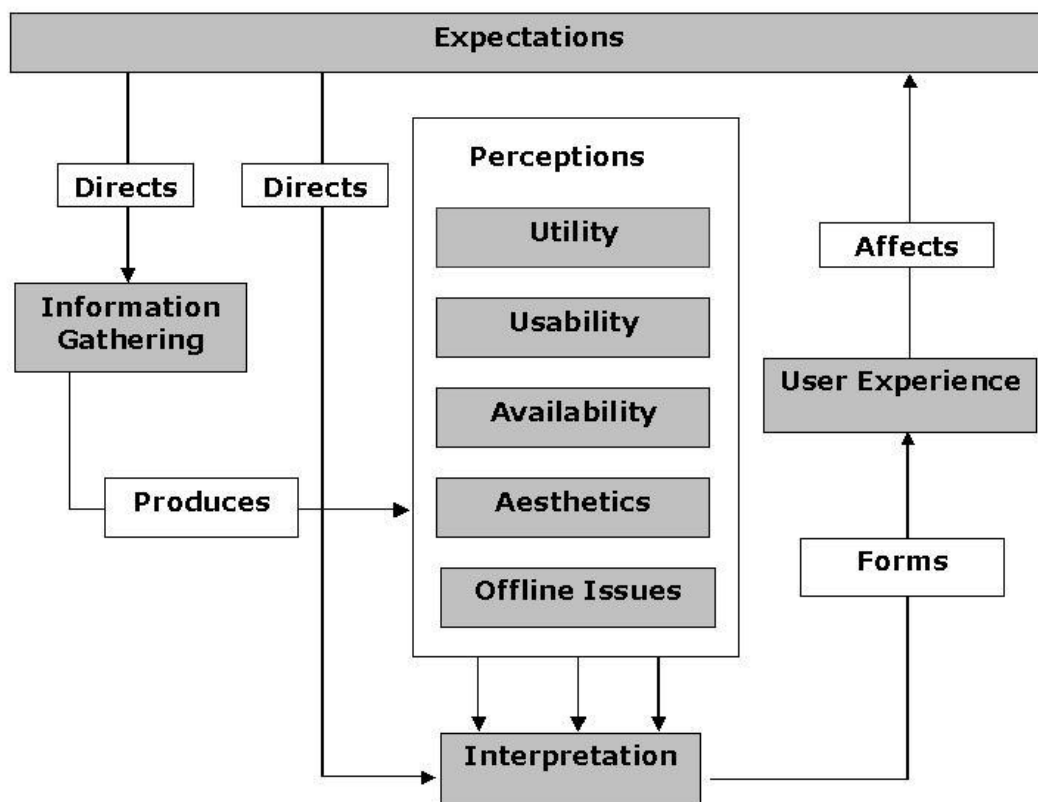
The user expectations, user experiences and the mental model of the user are affected by feeling that arouse after user have used the systems. Norman (1991) argues that a human-

computer interaction consisted of many distinct conceptual models such as model of designer, model of user and system image. The model of designer is a priori a conceptual model of system where as an user mental model is created when the user interacts with the system (Norman, 1991). The system image is created by the physical form of the system (Norman, 1991). Norman (1991) emphasizes that designers often assume that user mental model correspond with their conceptual model. However, the designers' communication with the users takes place through system image and if that image do not express designers conceptual model clearly and consistently the user can create fallacious mental model from the system. Hiltunen et al., (2002) indicate that changing mental models is stressful for users and is often connected with negative emotions towards the service and the user interface.

According to Hiltunen et al., (2002) the components of user experience can be grouped into five categories, which are utility, usability, availability, aesthetics and offline issues. They argue that user experience could be present as a multiplication equation:

$$\text{User experience (UX)} = \text{Utility} \times \text{Usability} \times \text{Availability} \times \text{Aesthetics} \times \text{Offline issues}$$

The components of user experience are presented in Figure 6.



**Figure 6.** User's information gathering from a product is directed by his or her expectations. During the information gathering the user produces perceptions, which he or she interprets. The interpreted perceptions form an user experience of the product.

The user experience model of Hiltunen, et al., (2002) is based on Neisser's (1976) model of the perception cycle. According to Hiltunen et al., (2002) expectations direct information gathering and they affect the user's emotional interpretation of gathered information. The user's interpretations of the service form user experience, which modifies future expectations of the service (Hiltunen et al., 2002). The components of perception which is defined by Hiltunen et al., (2002) are presented in Table 2.

**Table 2. Components of Perceptions (modified from Hiltunen, et al., 2002).**

<b>Component of Perception</b>	<b>Definition</b>
Utility	The user perceives the service as providing the kind of services that he or she finds valuable
Usability	The extent to which a product can be used by specified users to achieve specified goals with effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction in a specified context of use. (ISO 9241-11)
Availability	The service is available when expected and unavailable follows a predictable pattern.
Aesthetics	The user finds the look and feel of the service appealing.
Offline issues	This is an umbrella category containing such things as brand, i.e. what company is providing the service and the supporting backend business processes, e.g. how quickly net store can deliver.

The user experience framework of Hiltunen et al., (2002) was used in this research. This study investigated user experience of Internet banking only from the perspectives of usability and aesthetics. Other determinants of user experience in this framework such as utility, availability and offline issues were excluded from scope of this research. Furthermore, expectations and desires of user were excluded from current research's scope. The research focused on measuring user perceptions of usability and aesthetics, which were assumed to create the user experience in Internet banking context.

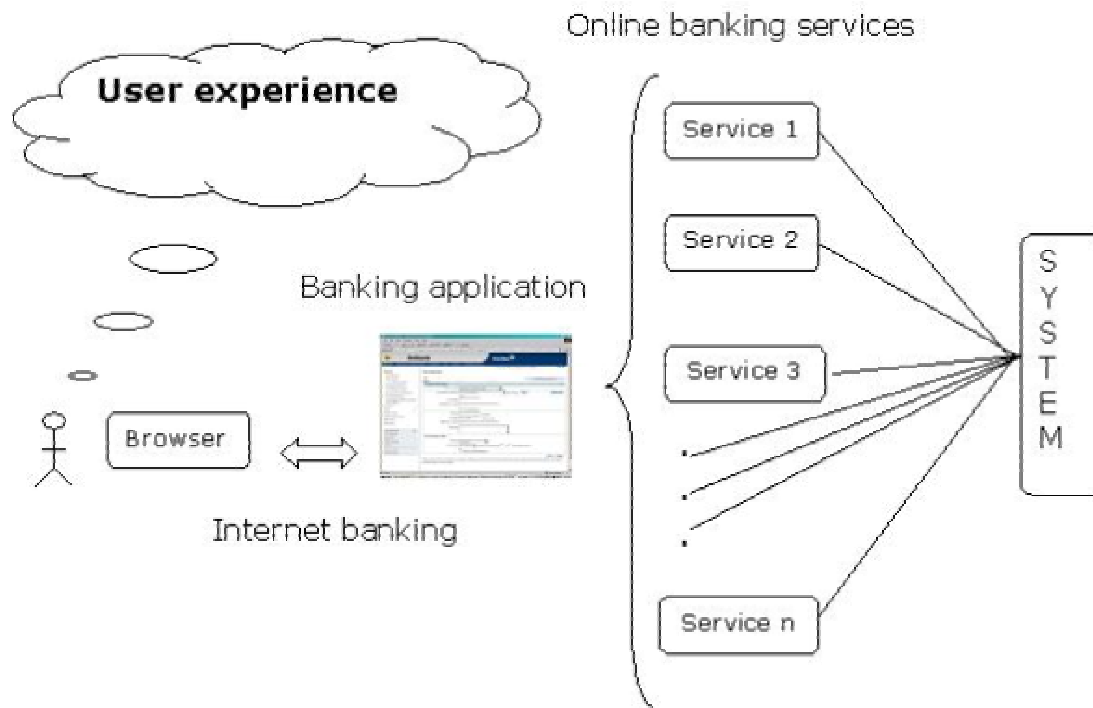
As was noted in Definition of Usability section two usability attributes, which were efficiency and satisfaction, of ISO 9241-11 (1998) standard and Nielsen's (1993) definition were adopted in the current research. In addition, learnability and memorability of Nielsen's (1993) definition were adapted to the current research's user experience definition. It was assumed that all of these attributes will belong to user experience of Internet banking. Furthermore, perceived aesthetics was also included to the user experience definition of the current research.

It should be noted that what was measured in this research study was user perception of easy of use, control, attractiveness, efficiency, satisfaction and security of Internet banking rather than objective degree of these usability attributes. The structure of developed user experience measurement, which included usability and aesthetics dimensions, was described in detail in Methods section.

### 1.3 THE AIMS OF STUDY

The target of this research was to develop and produce a scientifically approved survey measurement with which user experience could be statistically measured among Internet banking customers. An outcome of this research was a survey measurement tool and a Master thesis in Cognitive Science. This survey method was developed in Finland but it can also be applied with minor changes in other Nordic countries as well.

Two user groups were examined in the current research. The first user group, who were pilot users, used a new version of Internet-based banking application for which they conduct they banking issues. The second user group, who were customers of Nordea, used Internet-based banking application, which has been in production stage for many years. A main goal for this research was to operationalise user experience of Internet banking by developing a new measurement instrument, Nordea User Experience Questionnaire (NUEQ) for empirical testing. In addition, the research tried to evaluate if the same user experience factor structure could be found from both samples. Furthermore, Nordea Bank Finland was interested in user experience differences between user groups but this question was not a primary research question for the this study. The studied phenomenon the concept of user experience of Internet banking is illustrated Figure 7.



**Figure 7. The studied phenomenon, the user experience of Internet banking is diagrammed above. The financial services of banking system are delivered through an Internet banking user interface for which an user uses and his or her user experience is created by the Internet banking interaction.**

The research questions were developed based on a review of the literature in Introduction section. The primary question of this research related to the dimensional structure of user experience of Internet banking. To answer this primary research question, it was necessary to answer the following research questions:

- How can the user experience of Internet banking customers be measured?
- Is the factor structure of user experience similar among customers who use different Internet-based banking applications?
- How reliable is each part of the survey measurement as evaluated by using Cronbach's alpha?

It was assumed that answering these secondary questions the primary questions can be also be answered. The practical goals for this research were the following:

- To reduce the length of the original user experience scale with exploratory factor analysis while maintain reasonable levels of reliability of the scale and items, which contain most information about user experience.
- To develop a psychometrically studied short form of the quantitative instrument for evaluating user experience of Internet banking.
- To clarify groups of items of the scale, which could be seen as dimensions of user experience in Internet banking.

To summarize, this research tried to accomplish two objectives. The first objective was to clarify what is the structure of user experience in Internet banking context. The second objective was to develop a scale for which this user experience of Internet banking can be evaluated quantitatively.

## 2 METHODS

The purpose of this chapter is to describe used online questionnaires, to report information about users, to clarify a data collecting process, to justify scale-constructing process, and to make clear an expected structure of developed NUEQ's scale. In the next section the materials will be described in detail.

### 2.1 MATERIALS

The first sample was collected with a longer version of the NUEQ. Two similar online questionnaires were used in this stage (Appendix 1). The questionnaires were both in Finnish and in Swedish. Each questionnaire allowed an user to evaluate his or her user experience of Internet banking in his or her native language. The questionnaire consisted of questions: Likert questions and questions that include bipolar adjective pairs

The online questionnaire contained seven different parts. The first part of a questionnaire consisted of 6 demographic questions. The second part of questionnaire consisted of 6 scale's questions, which deal with overall Internet banking user experience. A semantic differential scale on 1-5 was in this part of questionnaires. The third part of questionnaire consisted of 15 scale's questions, which concerned characteristics of Internet-based banking application. In this section respondents were asked to answer on five-point Likert scale

The forth part of questionnaire included 19 scale's questions, which handled characteristics of Internet bank. A semantic differential scale on 1-5 was used in this section of questionnaires. The fifth part of a questionnaire coped with an importance of Internet banking services. This part of questionnaire were implemented by using 1-6 Likert scale where reply options were 1 = strongly disagree, 2 = partly disagree, 3 = something in between, 4 = partly agree, 5 = strongly agree and 6 = I do not use the service.

The sixth part of questionnaire consisted of 4 open questions, which dealt with expectation, opinions and suggestions for Internet bank. In this part of questionnaire respondents had an opportunity to give feedback in their own words about the characteristics of Internet bank. The seventh part of questionnaire contained two text fields for which respondents could input their name and phone number if they wanted to participate to allotment.

In general, the longer version of NUEQ consisted total of 59 questions. The questionnaires included 55 closed questions and 4 open questions per each. 40 items of the questionnaires were related to the longer version of the NUEQ's scale. All respondents could participate to allotment by giving their name and phone number to text fields, which were at end part of questionnaire.

The second sample was collected with a shorter and improved version of the NUEQ. The shorter version of the NUEQ consisted of 6 demographic, 7 Internet banking services, and 26 scale questions. The questionnaires were both in Finnish and in Swedish. Each questionnaire allowed an user to evaluate his or her user satisfaction and user experience in his or her native language. Five-point Likert and semantic differential scales were used to measure user's responses. The structure of the questionnaire will be described in detail in the section 3.2.1 The Structure of the shorter version of the NUEQ. Subjects, who participated in the current study, will be described in the next section.

## 2.2 SUBJECTS

Two independent Internet banking user populations were examined. The first examined user population were pilot users of a new version of the Internet-based banking application. A sample 1, which consisted of pilot users, was gathered between 19<sup>th</sup> of November 2004 to 9<sup>th</sup> of January 2005 using the longer version of the NUEQ. The sample 1 consisted of 351 online answers of respondents.

The second examined user population were customers who used an existing Internet-based banking application, which have been in production stage for many years. A sample 2 was gathered on 11<sup>th</sup> of February and between 14<sup>th</sup> of February to 22<sup>nd</sup> of February 2005 using the shorter version of the NUEQ. The sample 2 consisted of 479 online answers of respondents.

Distributions of both samples were compared and they were approximately similar in demographic information such as language, gender, age, usage frequency, Internet banking service experience, usage context, and connection type (Appendix 1).

## 2.3 PROCEDURE

In the current study two data sets were gathered in almost similar way. The demographic information of both samples was described in detail in above section. In this section the data gathering process will be described.

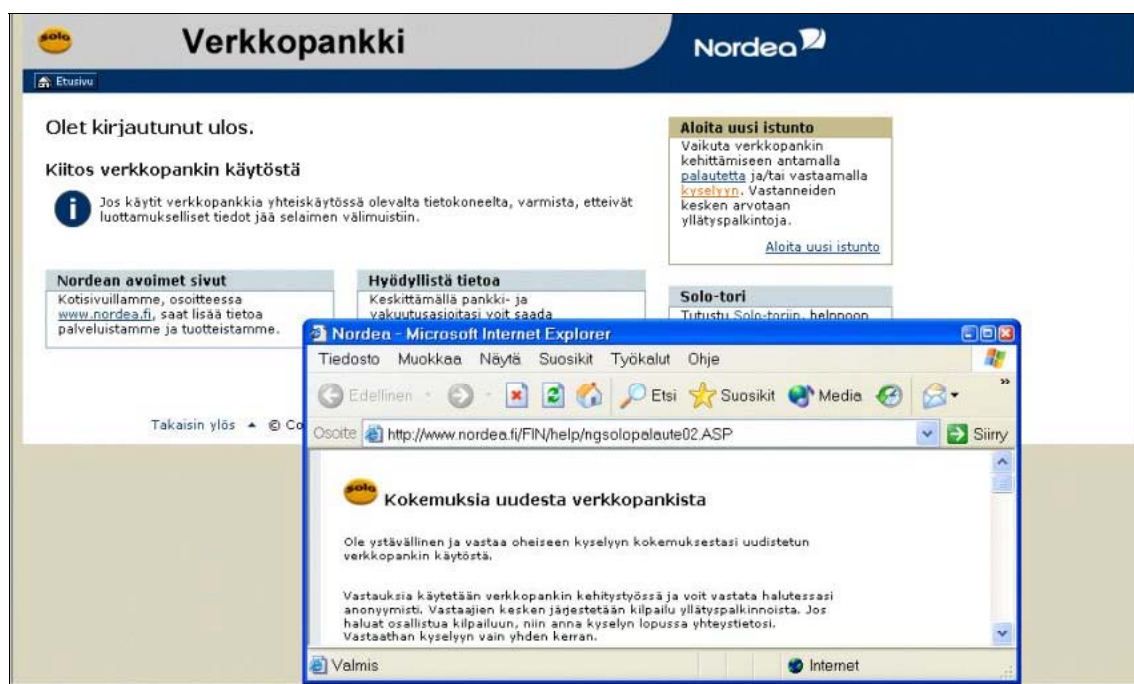
The data of both samples was gathered by using two online questionnaires where questions were either in Finnish or in Swedish. The questionnaires were described in Materials section

and the structure of the NUEQ's scale will be analysed in the Measures section. The whole data gathering process included three phases that will be described next.

First, the data gathering process began when a log out page was shown an user of Internet-based banking application who had logged out from the application. The data gathering process of sample 1 and 2 vary in this phase. The sample 1 was collected with a hyperlink which activated pop up window of the questionnaire. In contrast, sample 2 was gathered using both a hyperlink and an automatic activated pop up window of questionnaire (Figure 8). Statistical randomization method was better used in data gathering process of sample 2 than sample 1. The sample 2 was gathered with procedure that guarantee that every 10<sup>th</sup> user has opportunity to answer to the online questionnaire.

The second phase of data gathering process user filled in the online questionnaire. The questionnaire were filled in by using Web-browser and mouse or keyboard. After respondent had filled in the online questionnaire, he or she pushed a "Send" –button that transferred respondent's input to Nordea's databases.

The third phase of data gathering process contained transferring of data from databases to an excel format. At first, the data from databases was converted to the excel format. Second, the excel-file was transferred to SPSS 12.0 statistical program for statistical analysis. All data analysis was conduct using SPSS 12.0 statistical program.



**Figure 8.** The data of the current research was gathered using online questionnaires, which were located in the log out page of the Internet-based banking application.



## 2.4 MEASURES

In this chapter a scale development process will be described and the NUEQ's scale structure will be presented. The first section will clarify the phases of the scale development. The second section will reveal the longer version of the NUEQ's scale structure. The final section will consider issues concerning constructing and implementing the questionnaire and the NUEQ's scale.

### 2.4.1 PHASES OF SCALE DEVELOPMENT

In the current research the NUEQ's scale was developed using principles of Metsämuuronen (2000b) and DeVellis (2003). Their principles of scale development are the following:

1. Determine clearly what it is you want to measure
2. Generate an item pool
3. Determine the format for measurement
4. Have the initial item pool reviewed by experts
5. Consider inclusion of validation items
6. Administer items to a development sample
7. Evaluate the items
8. Optimise scale length

The first phase was described in Introduction. Phases 2 to 6 will be described in this and the following section. Phases 7 and 8 will be described in detail in Results section.

In the first phase a scale development process begins when a researcher has invented a question for which he or she wants to get an answer (Metsämuuronen, 2000b). This question was how to measure customers' user experience of Internet banking quantitatively in the current research.

Furthermore, the scale development requires that the researcher have learnt relevant theories about the studied phenomenon in order to operationalize essential concepts (Metsämuuronen, 2000b). In the current research this phase contained theoretical orientation to academic literature about electronic banking, usability, user satisfaction and user experience. Several difficulties were confronted in a literature review because customers' user experience of Internet banking is poorly studied academic field and majority of results, which are contributed by consultants, are reported as classified reports.

The second phase began when the objectives of this research were clear, an item pool was generated using modified questions of inventories that were described in Introduction section. This phase will be described in detail in Constructing of NUEQ's scale section.

The third and forth phases began when the NUEQ was created and implemented as an online questionnaire. The NUEQ was pilot tested when the hyperlink was sent by email to employees and managers of Nordea Netbanking section. They filled in the questionnaire and gave feedback from the questionnaire. The NUEQ was tested for 10 pilot users. The confused questions, which were reported by NUEQ's pilot respondents, were changed to more comprehensible form. Furthermore, two employees from Nordea who have competence in usability issues reviewed the NUEQ. Two questions were removed from the NUEQ and a couple of questions' wordings were changed because of the expert review meeting.

The fifth and sixth phase began when the longer version of NUEQ, which consisted of 40 scale's items, was implemented and first sample was gathered. The seventh and eight phases of how scale's items were removed will be described in detail in Results section.

## **2.4.2 SCALE STRUCTURE OF THE NORDEA USER EXPERIENCE QUESTIONNAIRE**

In this research the scale development of the NUEQ was based on a concept of latent variable. DeVellis (2003) states that a phenomenon or construct that affect a scale' items is called the latent variable. The latent variable cannot be directly measured but different items, which are affected by latent variable, can be assessed. Correlations between scale's items and the latent variable cannot be estimated but those items, which correlated strongly with each other, are assumed to be indicators of the same latent variable (DeVellis, 2003).

In the current research a main goal was to find scale's items, which were connected to latent variables of user experience of Internet banking. It was assumed that those factors, which will be constructed by using exploratory factor analysis, would be latent variables of user experience.

It was assumed, based on the previous research results in Introduction, that user experience consisted of two latent variables: perceived usability and perceived aesthetics (Table 3). The other components of user experience in Hiltunen et al., (2002) framework such as utility, availability and offline issues were excluded from the NUEQ's scale. The literature in Introduction shed some light on the potential importance of different components of user experience. It was assumed that latent variable of perceived usability is construct of dimensions such as controllability, efficiency, easy of use, learnability and security. A latent variable of perceived aesthetics was expected to include dimensions such as attractiveness and

satisfaction. To summarize, nine dimensions: 1) Controllability<sup>1</sup>, 2) Efficiency, 3) Ease of use, 4) Learnability, 5) Security, 6) Memorability, 7) Satisfaction, 8) Attractiveness, and 9) Overall user experiences, were selected to the NUEQ's scale. The all dimensions of the NUEQ's scale were expected to measure two latent variables that were perceived usability and perceived aesthetics.

**Table 3. Expected dimensions, question examples of each dimension, items' codes, numbers and expected latent variables are shown in the table.**

Dimension	Example question	Code	Items	Latent Variable
Controllability	"I can find the things I want fast and easily from a renewed net bank" (2 items on Likert scale and 1 item on semantic differential scale)	control (1-3)	3	<b>Perceived Usability</b>
Efficiency	"Use of a renewed net bank is: slow / fast" (Semantically different scale)	effi (1-5)	5	
Ease of Use	"Use of a renewed net bank is: difficult / easy" (Semantically different scale)	easyofus (1-10)	10	
Learnability	"Learning to use a renewed net bank is: difficult / easy" (Semantically different scale)	learn (1-2)	2	
Security	"Use of a renewed net bank is: unsafe / safe" (Semantically different scale)	security (1)	1	

<sup>1</sup> The items of each dimension are labeled using first four to eight characters of the dimension. For instance, first item of Controllability dimension is labeled control1 (with Courier new font). See table 3 below.

Memorability	"It is easy to remember how handle the banking issues with the renewed net bank" (Likert scale)	memorabl (1)	1	
Satisfaction	"I would recommend a renewed net bank to my colleague." (Likert scale)	satisf (1-9)	9	<b>Perceived Aesthetics</b>
Attractiveness	"A renewed net bank seems attractive and interesting." (Likert scale)	attract (1-3)	3	
Overall user experience	"Overall user experience of net bank is: frustrating / satisfying"	overall (1-6)	6	<b>Perceived Usability &amp; Aesthetics</b>

The developed NUEQ's scale was based on different inventories which were presented in the Introduction section. A longer version of NUEQ's scale consisted of 40 items. It was decided to take as many items as possible to the first draft of the NUEQ because focus will be in redundancy of scale's items. The used inventories of the developed NUEQ's scale are described below in Table 4.

**Table 4. The used inventories, their codes and scales and number items, which were modified and used in the NUEQ's scale.**

<b>Name of the inventory</b>	<b>Code</b>	<b>Scale</b>	<b>Used items</b>
Questions for User Interaction Satisfaction	QUIS	Semantically differential (1-5)	12
Purdue Usability Testing Questionnaire	PUTQ	Semantically differential (1-7)	2
Post-Study System Usability Questionnaire	PSSUQ	Likert scale (1-7)	9
The Software Usability Measurement Inventory	SUMI	Likert scale (1-3)	10
Nordea's previous usability measurement and created questions	NORDEA	Likert and semantically differential scale (1-5)	7

12 questions were adopted and modified from the QUIS for the overall, attractiveness, ease of use, learnability and efficiency dimensions. Ease of use was measured by 2 questions adapted and modified from the PUTQ. 9 questions to measure dimensions of ease of use, controllability, efficiency and satisfaction were taken from the PSSUQ and modified to fit to the dimensions studied. 10 questions of learnability, satisfaction, controllability, ease of use, attractiveness, memorability, and efficiency dimensions were taken from the SUMI and modified to fit the specific dimensions studied (*Software Usability Measurement Inventory*, 1993). Dimensions of satisfaction, security, efficiency and ease of use were measured by two questions adapted from Nordea's previous usability scale and five questions, which were created. In the next section factors that affected scales' items development process will be examined.

### **2.4.3 CONSTRUCTING THE NUEQ'S SCALE**

It has been said that when relevant theories and central concepts are found and operational definitions have been created from those theories a biggest step for the scale development has been done (Metsämuuronen, 2000b). The theoretical framework of the current research was described in Introduction section and operational definitions, which were derived the framework, were described in the above section. The process of constructing the scale will be analysed in this section.

In the second phase of the current research the item pool was created. It was decided that NUEQ's scale must contain maximum 60 items. It would have been optimal to take more items to the NUEQ's scale, but it would have required a larger sample. Larger sample might have been impossible with a longer questionnaire because it is said good response rate is accomplished only with a short questionnaire (Nielsen, 2004). In addition, if the questionnaire is too long a respondent might get tired which also affects the results (Nielsen, 2004).

The NUEQ's scale was designed in the way that more than one question measure the same dimension in order to analyse the data with factor analyses. In addition, five-point Likert and semantically differential scales were adopted to the NUEQ's scale because if the scale is concise (for example three-point Likert) there will be a too little variance in scale's items, which causes a low reliability score (Metsämuuronen, 2003). Two different types of scales (Likert and semantical differential scales) were used in the NUEQ for evaluating if the scales have an effect on the responses. Furthermore, as it was noted the minimum requirement for the scale is that the propositions are estimated with five- or seven-point scale, which is loosely interpreted as an interval scale (Metsämuuronen, 2003). The interval scale is minimum

requirement for factor analysis because it is based on the correlations between the items (Metsämuuronen, 2003).

No questions were taken from the previous inventories directly to the NUEQ's scale. The questions of introduced scales such as the QUIS, the PUTQ, the PSSUQ, the SUMI and the NORDEA were modified to fit the Internet banking context. All questions of the NUEQ's scale were written in present form either using passive or first person single. Internet-based banking applications were referred systematically with a term "renewed net bank" in all questions. Furthermore, the NUEQ's scale included three negative worded questions in order to prevent acquiescence bias in which respondents are disposed to answer affirmative to all questions. However, the negative worded questions can be more difficult to understand by respondents.

In this second research phase two different questionnaires were created consisting 42 items per each. A first and longer version of the NUEQ was created based on 40 items, which were chosen from the two preliminary versions of questionnaires. The result of this phase was described in detail in the Materials section. To summarize the longer version of the NUEQ's scale was created containing 40 items, which were expected to be constructs of nine dimensions (Appendix 2). The structure of the scale was described above section.

### 3 RESULTS

The main emphasis of the Results section is to describe briefly the theoretical framework of latent variable and factor analysis, to show the results of factor analyses for both samples, and to prove NUEQ's scale reliability using Cronbach's alpha scores. The Results section is divided into three sections. First, factor analyses and the reliability scores of the sample 1 and the longer version of the NUEQ's scale will be reported. Second, factor and reliability analyses of the sample 2 will be described. Finally, a simple structure, which was found from the both samples, will be estimated in detail.

#### 3.1 FACTOR AND RELIABILITY ANALYSES OF THE SAMPLE 1

The main objective of this section is to report factor and reliability analyses of sample 1. Furthermore, this sections clarifies the theoretical concept of latent variable. In addition, factor analysis requirements for sample 1 will be analysed in this section.

##### 3.1.1 LATENT VARIABLES AND FACTOR ANALYSIS

As was remarked in the Introduction section the user experience is a complex phenomenon that cannot be assessed directly. According to DeVellis (2003) scale development begins when a researcher generates a longer list of items than it is expected to find its way into finale

instruments. The main problem in scale development is how to remove those items that do not measure wanted phenomenon efficiently. The solution for this problem can be found from theory of latent variable and factor analysis.

The NUEQ's scale development process was based on the concept of the latent variable. It was assumed that the user experience could be measured with three latent variables such as overall user experience, perceived usability and perceived aesthetics. Those latent variables were assumed to be consisted of nine dimensions: 1) Controllability, 2) Efficiency, 3) Ease of use, 4) Learnability, 5) Security, 6) Memorability, 7) Satisfaction, 8) Attractiveness, 9) Overall user experience.

The latent variables of user experience were examined by using correlation matrix of items of the scale. DeVellis (2003) advises that correlations between latent variables and items of the scale cannot be assessed directly, but correlations of items can be estimated and if they are high, they are probably caused by the same latent variable. The latent variables are described as causes of the items score in the theoretical framework of the current research.

In general, a factor analysis is most frequently used method for searching latent variables (Metsämuuronen, 2003). DeVellis (2003) claims that conducting factor analysis number of items of the scale could be reduced without losing any information. In the other words, factor analysis is a method with which data can be simplified (Kline, 1996).

The factor analyses can be divided into two categories. First, an exploratory factor analysis (EFA) is a method, which is used when it is uncertain what are the latent variables in the research field (Kline, 1996) and it is usually applied to simply correlations between variables and to describe items correlations with factors (Karma & Komulainen, 2002; Kline, 1996). Second, a confirmatory factor analysis (CFA) is a method, which requires a factor model of the studied phenomenon, and it can be used to evaluate how a particular sample supports the existing theories (Karma & Komulainen, 2002; Kline, 1996; Metsämuuronen, 2003).

In the current research the explorative factor analysis was chosen for statistical method because it is suitable for this research purpose where there is not an existing theory about user experience of Internet banking for which to test with a confirmatory factor analysis. In addition, EFA is an appropriate method for studying phenomenon where relevant factors cannot be identified directly and there is a need to capture a structure of data and latent variables, which affect the scale's items. Furthermore, EFA is an essential tool for the scale development because sum variables can be created for those scale's items, which loaded on strongly to factors, and scale's reliability can be assessed with Cronbach's alpha by using those sum variables (DeVellis, 2003). This will be clarified in detail in the Reliabilities of the

NUEQ's scales between Sample 1 and Sample 2. The explorative factor analysis was conducted in Metsämuuronen's (2003) recommended way in four phases, which were the following:

1. Correlation matrix of scale's items, which are taken into analysis, is calculated.
2. Factor loadings of items are estimated using the produced correlation matrix.
3. Factor loading of items are rotated to achieve more easily interpreted factor structure.
4. In the end scales' reliabilities are calculated from each factor's items.

The data of both samples was analysed with the explorative factor analysis (EFA) in order to find out how items of the NUEQ's scale would load on factors and to see if expected structure of the scale could be identified as dimensions of Internet banking of user experience. The main goal was to identify a relatively few items of the scale that are strongly related to a small number of latent variables (DeVellis, 2003). In the next section requirements for factor analysis of sample 1 will be analysed.

### **3.1.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR FACTOR ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE 1**

The exploratory factor analysis was conducted to the data of the sample 1 using a maximum likelihood method because it accounts majority of variance of population matrix estimated by sample matrix (Kline, 1996; Metsämuuronen, 2003; Yli-Luoma, 2004). The maximum likelihood method is most appropriate factor analysis method when a sample size is at least 100 observations (Metsämuuronen, 2003). However, it is said that it is trivial whether maximum likelihood or principal components methods is used in factor analysis when scale's reliability and communalities of scale's items are high (Kline, 1996). The main benefit for using the maximum likelihood method in factor analysis is that it includes statistical test for which the significance for each factor can be evaluated as it is extracted (Kline, 1996).

The Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin measure of sampling adequacy (MSA) was computed to determine suitability of using factor analysis. The test's values greater than 0.6 indicate that used data is appropriate for factor analysis. A collected sample 1 was appropriate for factor analysis because its MSA was .949, which is regarded as excellent according to Kaiser's classification (Table 5).



**Table 5 Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin's test score and Bartlett's test score of the sample 1.**

**KMO and Bartlett's Test**

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		,949
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	5074,520
	df	780
	Sig.	,000

Furthermore, the significance of Bartlett's test of sphericity was  $p < .0001$ , which indicated that sample 1 did not produce an identity matrix and it is appropriate for factor analysis (Metsämuuronen, 2003). A null hypothesis of the Bartlett's test of sphericity is true in cases when used correlation matrix is an identity matrix for which variables are unrelated and cannot be used in the factor analysis. In addition, a sample size can be seen as an adequate sample for an exploratory factor analysis with 40 variables because sample 1 consisted of 351 observations. Kline (1996) proposes that a minimum ratio of subjects to scale items is 2:1, which were fulfilled undoubtedly with sample 1. Kline (1996) comments that correlation between scale's items becomes a quite reliable with a sample size of 100 observations. In addition, it has been said a sample of 100 is quite sufficient if a clear factor structure can be found from the data (Kline, 1996; Metsämuuronen, 2003). To summarize, all requirements for factor analysis were fulfilled with the sample 1. The factor analysis of the sample 1 was continued with the factor analysis with the eigenvalue rule and the Scree test that will be analysed in the next section.

### **3.1.3 FACTOR MODEL OF SAMPLE 1 BASED ON EIGENVALUE RULE AND SCREE TEST**

DeVellis (2003) remarks that it is difficult to determine how many factors can be extracted from the data. Kline (1996) defines factors as constructs or dimensions which account the relationships between scale's items and they are defined by their factor loadings. The eigenvalue rule and the Scree test are two commonly used non-statistical guidelines for deciding the right number of extracted factors (DeVellis, 2003).

In general, information, which is captured by factor, can be represented by its eigenvalue (DeVellis, 2003). The eigenvalue rule proposes that factors whose eigenvalues is less than 1.0 should be eliminated because those factors contain less information than average scale's items (DeVellis, 2003). The numbers of factors were estimated from sample 1 by using Varimax factor analysis with maximum likelihood method and eigenvalue over 1 rule. Communalities and a Varimax rotated factor matrix are presented in Appendix 4. A total six factors with eigenvalue greater than 1.0 were identified. The six-factor model accounted for 67,35 % of

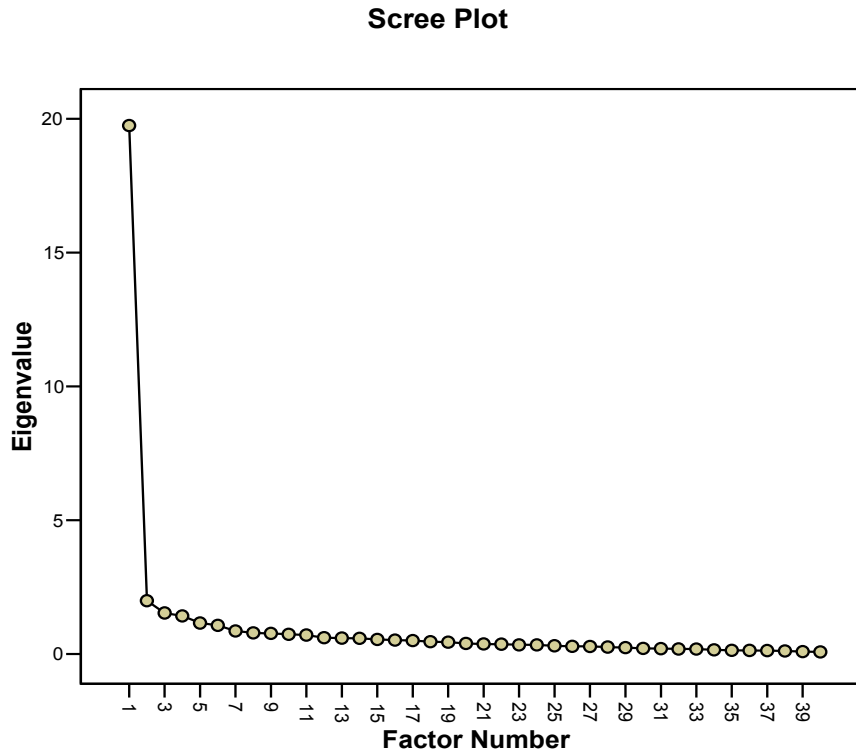
items variance before the Varimax rotation (Table 6). The majority of the items variance 49,37 % was accounted for the first factor before the rotation. The rest of the five factors accounted for 17,99 % of items variance before the rotation.

**Table 6. Eigenvalues and % of items variance accounted for 7 factors.**

Factor	Initial Eigenvalues			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	19,747	49,387	49,387	19,365	48,413	48,413	8,201	20,503	20,503
2	1,995	4,987	54,354	1,575	3,939	52,352	4,791	11,977	32,480
3	1,537	3,842	58,196	1,038	2,594	54,946	3,786	9,466	41,946
4	1,425	3,561	61,757	1,008	2,519	57,465	2,628	6,571	48,517
5	1,162	2,905	64,662	,756	1,891	59,356	2,559	6,398	54,915
6	1,076	2,690	67,352	,722	1,806	61,162	2,499	6,247	61,162
7	,863	2,157	69,509						

The eigenvalues greater than 1 rule is said to be too generous for retaining factors (DeVellis, 2003). Furthermore, it is argued that number of factors is greatly overestimated by the eigenvalue rule in the large matrices (Kline, 1996). For these reasons it was assumed that a six-factor model was not an appropriate model for the sample 1.

The Cartell's Scree test, which is also based on the eigenvalues but it uses items' relative values rather than absolute values as criterion, is said to be the best solution for selecting the right numbers of factors (DeVellis, 2003). The Cartell's Scree test can be used to visualize a critical point where eigenvalues of factors stabilize (Kline, 1996; Metsämuuronen, 2003). Yli-Luoma (2004) points out that only error variance is accounted for the factors when Scree test curve stabilizes. Sample 1 was analysed with Cartell's Scree test (Figure 9). The right number of factors can be found by looking at a drop in amount of information across successive factors (DeVellis, 2003). The drop of sample 1 occurs between the second and the third factor. It was assumed that two- or three-factor models would be the best model for sample 1 because the majority of the items variance was accounted for third factor based on Scree test graph. The Scree test indicated that an originally proposed nine-factors structure did not hold up in factor analysis.



**Figure 9.** The scree plot graph of factors' eigenvalues revealed that the majority of items variance was accounted for two or three factors.

DeVellis (2003) advises that those factors that are located above the drop of the plot should be retained. For these reasons factor analysis of sample 1 was continued with three-factor model. These three-factor model analyses will be reported in the next section.

### **3.1.4 THREE-FACTOR MODEL OF SAMPLE 1 WITH VARIMAX AND DIRECT OBLIM ROTATION**

The Varimax factor analysis was conducted to the sample 1 with the maximum likelihood method. An orthogonal rotation was conducted to the sample 1 by using Kline (1996) suggested Varimax method. In general, regularly used orthogonal rotation methods are Varimax and Quartimax rotations and oblique rotation method is Direct Oblim rotation (Metsämuuronen, 2003). The Varimax rotation method is orthogonal which indicate that second and the following factors must be uncorrelated with the first factor (Kline, 1996). In other words, the Varimax rotation produces a model where all factors are uncorrelated with each other (Kline, 1996). The communalities of scale's items and items' factor loadings, which were above the 0.20 levels in the factor analysis, are presented in the factor matrix Appendix 5.

The three-factor model accounted for 60,02 % of items variance before the Varimax rotation. 51,52 % of items variance were accounted for the first factor before the rotation. The three-

factor orthogonal model accounted for 56,61 % of items variance after Varimax rotation. The first factor accounted for 22,31 %, second factor 20,17 % and third factor 14,13 % of items variance. The maximum likelihood factor analysis method also gave an opportunity to use a statistical significance test to evaluate the number of extracted factors. The goodness of fit test score for three orthogonal factors argued that produced three-factor model was weak ( $p < .001$ ) and it indicated that more factors would be needed. However, it is argued that null hypothesis of goodness of fit test will be too easily be rejected in large samples (Kline, 1996; Metsämuuronen, 2003).

Kline (1996) suggests that factor loadings of which absolute values are greater than 0.6 are regard as high and moderately high if they are above 0.3. Factor loadings, which are below 0.30, can be ignored (Kline, 1996). The communalities matrix of sample 1 indicated that majority of items had atleast moderately high communalities because they were all above 0.30. The communalities of items varied between .82 (*easyofuse6*<sup>2</sup>) and .158 (*attract2*). The extracted communalities of items *attract2* (.158) and *securit1* (.159) were less than .30 and they were removed from the scale. The small extraction communality values indicated that those items did not fit well the factor model and should be removed from additional analysis (Yli-Luoma, 2004). The item *easyofuse2* was not removed from the NUEQ's scale although its extracted communality value (.288) was below 0.3 but its factor loading (.419) was moderately high to the first factor. In addition, item *learn1* was removed from the scale because it loaded negatively (-.520) on second factor. In this phase only those items that were positively correlated with each other and had factor loading greater than 0.3 were retained. The original NUEQ's scale consisted of 37 items and 3 items were removed in this stage.

The oblique factor analysis for three factors with maximum likelihood was conducted to sample 1 because many items of the scale were loaded on more than one factor and a simple structure was not found from three orthogonal factors model. The oblique rotation was conducted using Kline (1996) recommended Direct Oblim rotation method and delta value 0 because it is said to be reliable and the most effective method for obtaining simple structure (Kline, 1996).

The communalities and factor loadings, which were greater than 0,30, of Direct oblim rotated three-factor model are presented in Appendix 6. The first oblique rotated factor accounted for

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<sup>2</sup> *easeofuse6* means sixth items of Ease of use dimension of the NUEQ's scale. See the structure of the NUEQ's scale from page 26.

16,91 %, second factor 10,55 % and third 15,04 % of items variance. It should be noted that Direct oblim rotation allows factors correlate with each other. For this reason factors' cumulative accounted portion cannot be estimated. Furthermore, the oblique factor analysis revealed that first factor and second factor correlate positively ( $r = 0.564$ ) to each other. In contrast, first and third factor correlated strongly negatively ( $-0.715$ ) to each other. Furthermore, second and third factor correlated negatively ( $-0.500$ ) to each other.

Two scale items were removed from the scale after oblique factor analysis. The first removed item was `easyofuse2` because its extracted communality value was low (.288). The second removed item was `satisf9`, which had an average communality value (.566) but it was realized that its content is not suitable for analyzing user experience of other banking application user group. The original NUEQ's scale consisted of 35 items and 5 items were removed in this stage. It was assumed that scale's items variance can be accounted for two factor because many items had factor loading greater than 0.30 on more than one factor and the simple structure could not be found (Appendix 6). The factor analysis with two-factor model was conducted to the sample 1 which will be reported in the next section.

### **3.1.5 TWO-FACTOR MODEL OF SAMPLE 1 WITH VARIMAX AND DIRECT OBLIM ROTATION**

The Varimax rotated factor analysis for two factors with maximum likelihood method was conducted to the sample 1 because the simple structure was not found from orthogonal and oblique three-factor model. The communalities of the factor analysis are presented in Appendix 7. The extracted communalities of items varied between .811 (`satisf4`) and .291 (`satisf7`).

The two-factor model accounted for 57,58 % before the Varimax rotation and after the rotation 54,77 % of the items variance. The first factor accounted for 52,38 % and second factor 5,18 % of items variance before the rotation. After Varimax rotation the first factor accounted for 31,28 % and second factor accounted for 23,49 % of items variance. The item `satisf7` was removed from the scale because of its low extracted communality value (.291). The original NUEQ's scale consisted of 34 items and 6 items were removed in this stage.

The orthogonal two-factor model revealed that many items were still loaded on both factors. For this reason Direct oblim factor analysis for two factors with maximum likelihood method was conducted to the sample 1. The Direct oblim rotation was conducted with delta value 0 to sample 1, and only those items that were positively correlated with the other items and had factor loadings greater than 0.40 were taken into analysis (Table 7). The communalities of

factor analysis are presented in Appendix 8. The extracted communalities of items varied between .811 (satisf4) and .331 (attract1\_r).

**Table 7. The factor matrix of two-factor model with Direct oblim rotation where removed items of the scale are presented on grey background.**

**Pattern Matrix(a)**

	Factor	
	1	2
overall1	1,024	
overall5	,882	
overall3	,868	
effi1	,846	
overall2	,832	
overall6	,814	
satisf1	,800	
satisf4	,736	
effi4	,706	
satisf3	,650	
overall4	,647	
attract3	,621	
effi3	,608	
effi2	,588	
control2	,585	
control1	,547	
satisf2_r	,535	
easyuse1_r	,517	
memorab1	,500	
satisf5	,460	
satisf8	,406	
easyuse8	,404	
effi5		
attract1_r		
learn2		,726
easyuse4		,717
easyuse5		,691
easyuse7		,657
control3		,593
easyuse6		,565
satisf6		,561
easyuse3		,548
easyus10		,439
easyuse9		,413

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood. Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

a Rotation converged in 15 iterations.

Those scale's items, which had factor loadings greater than .501 in two-factor model with Direct Oblim rotation, were selected to a shorter and improved version of NUEQ's scale. In this phase the scale's items memorab1 (.500), satisf5 (.460), satisf8 (.406), easyofuse8 (.404), effi5 (factor loading was lower than .400), attract1\_r (lower than .400), easyofuse10 (.439) and easyofuse9 (.413) were removed from the scale.

The removed scale's items are presented on grey background in Table 7. Total of 14 items of the original NUEQ were removed based on the orthogonal and oblique factor analyses. The shorter version of the NUEQ's scale consisted of 26 items. The items of NUEQ's scale were loaded on two factors. The Direct oblim factor analysis with maximum likelihood method and delta value 0 was conducted to the selected 26 items of the NUEQ's scale of sample 1.

**Table 8. Direct oblim rotated communalities of chosen 26 items of NUEQ's scale.**

<b>Communalities</b>		
	Initial	Extraction
overall1	,719	,721
overall2	,643	,583
overall3	,625	,539
overall4	,647	,580
overall5	,734	,697
overall6	,713	,657
effi1	,593	,563
control1	,537	,506
easyuse1_r	,593	,537
control2	,650	,579
attract3	,591	,522
satisf1	,709	,704
satisf2_r	,614	,547
effi2	,589	,545
satisf3	,581	,483
satisf4	,823	,822
satisf6	,536	,495
easyuse3	,494	,446
easyuse4	,502	,433
easyuse5	,531	,427
learn2	,665	,687
control3	,729	,721
easyuse6	,791	,807
effi3	,649	,603
easyuse7	,478	,362
effi4	,611	,527

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

The communalities of the oblique rotation are shown in Table 8 and those items, which had factor loadings greater than 0.400, are presented in Table 9. As was noted earlier factor loading of .30 or greater is regarded as significant (Kline, 1996). The factor loading of .30 indicates that 9 % of the item's variance is accounted for the factor (Kline, 1996).

**Table 9. Direct oblim rotated two factor model that consisted of 26 items which were chosen to shorter version of NUEQ's scale. The factor loadings of three-factor model are shown below.**

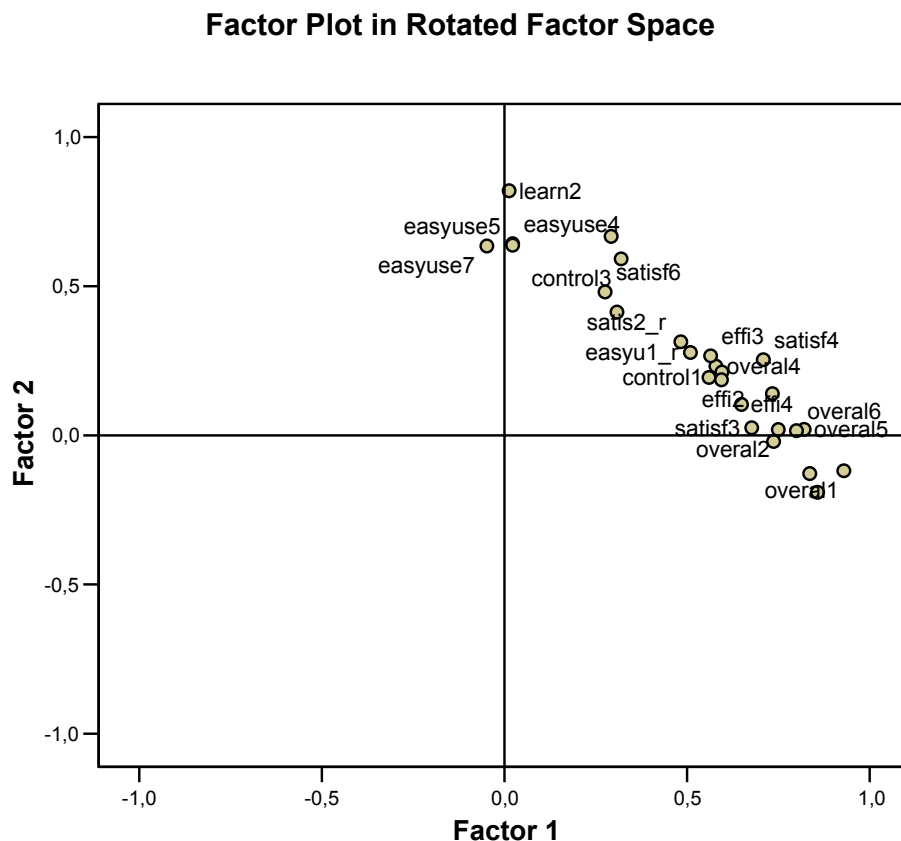
**Pattern Matrix(a)**

	Factor	
	1	2
overall1	,929	
overall3	,857	
effi1	,836	
overall5	,820	
overall6	,800	
overall2	,750	
attract3	,737	
satisf1	,733	
satisf4	,709	
satisf3	,677	
effi4	,649	
control2	,596	
effi2	,594	
overall4	,579	
effi3	,565	
control1	,560	
easyuse1_r	,509	
satisf2_r	,483	
learn2		,820
easyuse6		,667
easyuse4		,642
easyuse5		,638
easyuse7		,635
control3		,592
satisf6		,481
easyuse3		,413

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood. Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.  
A. Rotation converged in 8 iterations.

All scale's items were loaded strongly on two oblique factors. 18 items loaded on the first factor and their factor loadings varied between .929 (overall1) and .483 (satisf2\_r). 8 items were loaded strongly to the second factor and their factor loadings varied between .820 (learn2) and .413 (easyofuse3). Two-factor model accounted for 61,55 % of items variance before the Direct oblim rotation. The first and second factors were correlated positively ( $r = .71$ ) with each other. All items' factor loadings on the factors are presented visually in Figure 10.





**Figure 10.** The NUEQ scale's factor loadings of 26 items are visually presented above with Direct oblim rotated two factors.

### **3.1.6 RELIABILITIES OF SHORTER VERSION OF THE NUEQ'S SCALE**

After the second and improved version of the NUEQ's scale was determined using factor analyses, the reliability of the shorter NUEQ's scale was analysed. In general, the reliability of scale can be defined as the absence of measurement error (Bailey & Pearson, 1983). In other words, a reliable scale measures same phenomenon consistently and free from error (Bailey & Pearson, 1983). In this research the scale's reliability is defined as an item's amount of variance that is caused by the true score of the latent variable ( DeVellis, 2003). DeVellis (2003) remarks that all variance in the items scores of the scale are due to error and actual variation across individuals in the phenomenon that the scale measures.

The reliability can be measured using either a parallel test, a test-retest or an internal consistency method (Ives et al., 1983; Metsämuuronen, 2003). DeVellis (2003) argues that scale's internal consistency is typically equated with Cronbach's coefficient alpha. In basic research acceptable reliability scores for scales are greater than 0.80 (Ives et al., 1983). The internal consistency in this study meant the amount of which the items of the NUEQ's scale captured the true scores of the latent variables of user experience. The internal consistency

reliability is consequence of the homogeneity of the items of the scale and measurement theory suggest that those items that are correlated with each other measure the same latent variable (DeVellis, 2003). In other words, an internally consistent scale includes items that are highly correlated with each other (DeVellis, 2003).

The reliability of the improved and shorter version of the NUEQ's scale, which consisted of 26 items, was analysed using the internal consistency method and Cronbach's alpha. Cronbach's alpha score were calculated using following formula:

$$r_{xx} = \frac{K}{K-1} \left( 1 - \frac{\sum s_g^2}{s_x^2} \right)$$

where  $K$  = number of items in scale,  $\sum s_g^2$  = sum of items variance,  $s_x^2$  = sum variables variance which are created from scale items.

The reliability of the overall NUEQ's scale was high, Cronbach's alpha = .967 (Table 10). The reliability analysis was conducted from 305 observations and 46 observations were ignored from the analysis because their missing values. Furthermore, the reliability of the NUEQ's scale was calculated for sum variables which were created based on the two-factor model. The reliability matrices is presented in Appendix 9.

**Table 10. The reliabilities, means, standard deviations, min-max intervals, and number of items of the shorter NUEQ's scale are shown in the table.**

Scale	Items	Reliability	Min-Max interval	Means (M)	Standard deviation (SD)	Accepted responses
Overall scale	26	.967	26 - 130	87,43	19,86	305
Sum variable of factor 1	18	.961	18 – 90	59,67	14,70	327
Sum variable of factor 2	8	.904	8 - 40	27,56	6,24	319

The reliability of the first factor's sum variable, which included 18 items, was high, Cronbach's alpha=. 961. The reliability analysis was conducted from 327 observations and 24 observations were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha scores, if an item was deleted from the scale, ranged between .957 (satisf4) and .960 (seven items) in the first factor. The reliability of the second factor's sum variable, which included 8 items, was high, Cronbach's alpha = .904. The reliability analysis was conducted from 319 observations and 32 observations were ignored from the analysis because

of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score, if an item was deleted from the scale ranged between .882 (*easyofuse6*) and .900 (*easyuse7*) in the first factor.

To summarize, reliability scores of sum variables ranged between .967 and .904 in the NUEQ's scale, which were created from sample 1. It can be argued that the developed NUEQ's scale was a reliable instrument because its reliability scores were high which meant that a very little of variance in responses of selected items of the NUEQ's scale was due to measurement error. According to Metsämuuronen (2000b) high reliability score indicates that scale's items measure the same underlying latent variable and the scale separate individuals in reliable and efficient way (Metsämuuronen, 2000b).

The factors' factor scores of the two-factor model were compared to created sum variables. The first factor score correlate strongly ( $r = .995$ ) with the first sum variable (SUM1). The second factor score correlate strongly ( $r = .973$ ) with the second sum variable (SUM2). This procedure was conducted to guarantee that the sum variables SUM1 and SUM2 were adequate indicators to factor scores of two-factor model.

The strong correlation between two sum variables was indicated also when factor scores' and sum variables' correlations were compared. The first factor score correlate strongly ( $r = .796$ ) with second sum variable (SUM2). In addition, second factor score correlated strongly ( $r = .773$ ) with the first sum variable (SUM1). The factor scores and sum variables were distributed approximately like a normal distribution (Appendix 10).

### 3.2 FACTOR AND RELIABILITY ANALYSES OF THE SAMPLE 2

The factor analyses of the first sample produced a shorter version of the NUEQ's scale. The main purpose for this activity was to create a scale that had fewer items than the original version while maintaining a high reliability. In addition, second objective was to improve the percentage of completed questionnaires in the following samples. The structure of produced scale was changed so that two items (*effi1* and *easyofuse7*) were removed from the scale before the collection of a sample 2. The items were removed because it was realized that their contents were not appropriate for measuring user experience of Internet banking in banking context of sample 2. Furthermore, two eliminated items (*satisfy\_8* and *securit1*) were added to the scale because they produced relevant information to the Nordea. The structure of the NUEQ's scale, which was used in collecting sample 2, will be described in the next section.

### 3.2.1 STRUCTURE OF SHORTER VERSION OF THE NUEQ

The shorter and modified version of the user experience scale consisted of 26 where 9 items used a five-point Likert scale and 17 items used a five-point semantically differential scale. 14 items were removed from the original NUEQ's scale, which consisted of 40 items, using factor analyses. The 24 items of the scale were loaded on two oblique factors, and two items (*securit1* and *satisf8*) were not loaded on these factors because they were added afterwards.

The shorter version of questionnaires were divided into three parts: 1) Overall Internet banking experience, 2) Internet banking characteristics 1 /2, and 3) Internet banking characteristics 2 /2 (Table 11). The order of questions in each part of the questionnaires were determined with a random-number generation in order to eliminate a bias related to questions order.

The first part of questionnaire consisted of 6 questions. The five-point semantic differential scale was used in these questions. All the questions of part 1 were loaded on the first factor. The second part of questionnaire consisted of 9 questions and five-point Likert scales were used in these questions. All the questions of part 1 were loaded on the first factor. The third part consisted of 11 questions and the five-point semantic differential scale was used in these questions. All the questions of part 3 were loaded on to the first factor except item *effi4*, which was loaded on the second factor. In the next section factor analysis requirements of sample 2 will be examined.

**Table 11. The structure of shorter version of the NUEQ's scale is presented below.**

Part of NUEQ	Item number	Item code	Scale	Factor
1	1	overal6	Semantic differential	1
1	2	overal1	Semantic differential	1
1	3	overal4	Semantic differential	1
1	4	overal5	Semantic differential	1
1	5	overal2	Semantic differential	1
1	6	overal3	Semantic differential	1
2	7	effi2	Likert	1

2	8	attract3	Likert	1
2	9	satisf3	Likert	1
2	10	satisf4	Likert	1
2	11	control2	Likert	1
2	12	satisf2_r	Likert	1
2	13	satisf1	Likert	1
2	14	easyofuse1_r	Likert	1
2	15	control1	Likert	1
3	16	learn2	Semantic differential	2
3	17	satisf8	Semantic differential	
3	18	control3	Semantic differential	2
3	19	easyofuse5	Semantic differential	2
3	20	easyofuse6	Semantic differential	2
3	21	easyofuse3	Semantic differential	2
3	22	easyofuse4	Semantic differential	2
3	23	effi4	Semantic differential	1
3	24	satisf6	Semantic differential	2
3	25	effi3	Semantic differential	2
3	26	securit1	Semantic differential	

### 3.2.2 REQUIREMENTS FOR FACTOR ANALYSIS OF SAMPLE 2

The demographic information of 479 subjects of sample 2 was reported in the Methods section. The factor analysis requirements of the sample 2 will be analysed in this section. An explorative factor analysis was conducted to sample 2 in order to reveal the simple structure of the scale in sample 2. The factor analysis was carried out using Metsämuuronen's (2003) suggested maximum likelihood method. The maximum likelihood method requires that sample size is more than 100 observations, which was clearly fulfilled in sample 2. The Kaiser-Mayer-Olkin's test score of sample 2 was .937, which was much greater than 0.6, indicated that sample 2 was appropriate for factor analysis according to Kaiser's classification (Table 12).

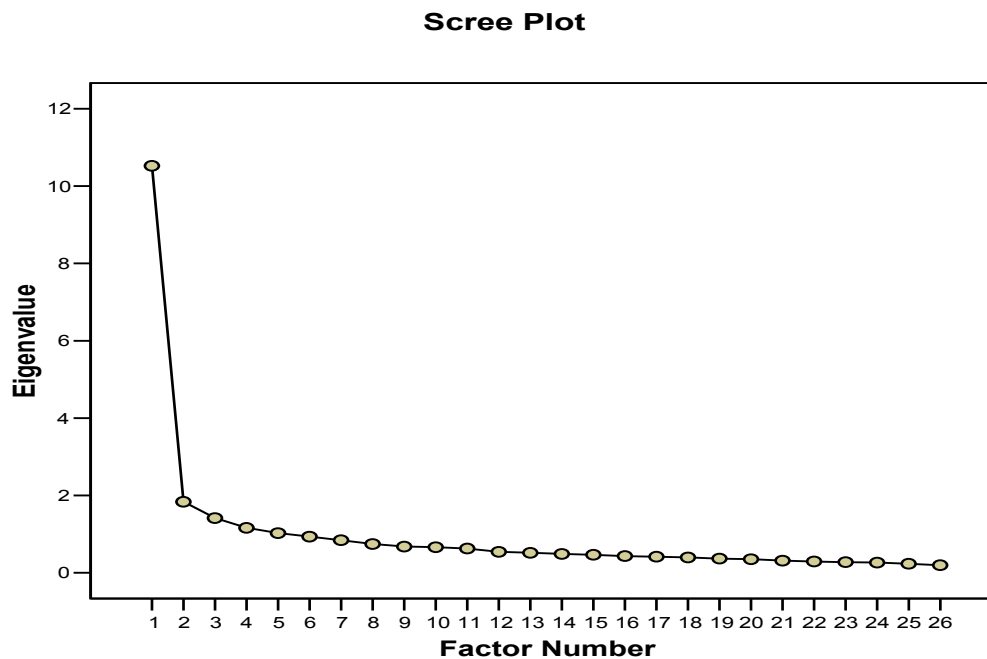
**Table 12. KMO and Bartlett's Test results of Sample 2.**

KMO and Bartlett's Test		
Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.937
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	5949,147
	df	325
	Sig.	,000

Furthermore, the significance of Bartlett's test of sphericity was  $p < .0001$  which indicated that sample 2 did not produce an identity matrix and it is appropriate for factor analysis (Metsämuuronen, 2003).

A total five factors with eigenvalue greater than 1.0 were identified. The five-factor model accounted for 61,5 % of items variances. The majority of the items variances, 40,5 % was accounted for a first factor before Varimax rotation. The rest of four factor accounted for 21 % of items variance before the rotation. It should be noted that after "extra" questions such as `securit1` and `satisf8` were removed from the scale, the eigenvalue rule over 1 rule produced a four-factor model where 58,9 % items variance was accounted for before the rotation. Based on these results it can be argued that the last factor in five-factor model was irrelevant because it was created by two extra variables `securit1` and `satisf8`. In addition, when these factor models were compared, the four-factor Varimax-rotated model was much better than five-factor Varimax rotated model because 51,4 % of items variance was accounted for the former model and only 41,1 % of items variance was accounted for four factors of the latter model. The added items `securit1` and `satisf8` were removed from the scale for further factor analysis of the scale based on these findings.

As was remarked in analysis of sample 1, the einvalue rule over one often overestimates the number of factors in large matrix. The Cartell Scree test was used to estimate the number of factors (Figure 11). A drop in amount of information across successive factors reveals the right number of extracted factors (DeVellis, 2003; Metsämuuronen, 2003). The Scree plot of the Cartell's test indicated that majority of the items variance could be accounted for a two- or three-factor model.



**Figure 11. The Cartell screen test indicated that majority of items variance were accounted for two or three factors.**

In other words, the Cartell test Scree plot revealed that after third factor majority of the items variance are accounted for and any extra factor did not produce any new information to the analysis. The further factor analysis concentrated on solving the problem which factor model will be adequate for sample 2. The analysis of three-factor model will be analysed in the next section.

### **3.2.3 THREE-FACTOR MODEL WITH VARIMAX- AND OBLIM ROTATION**

The maximum likelihood factor analysis for three factors was conducted to sample 2 (Table 13) The Varimax rotation method was selected because it maximizes factor loadings of each extracted factor (Metsämuuronen, 2003).

**Table 13. The items' factor loadings in three-factor model with Varimax rotation.**

**Rotated Factor Matrix(a)**

	Factor		
	1	2	3
satis2_r	,624		
satisf4	,589		,495
easyuse1_r	,556		
overall5	,537		,428
overall2	,535		,383
ef14	,534	,335	
overall4	,531	,407	
satisf1	,527		
ef13	,525	,445	
overall1	,486		,409
ef12	,480		,342
control1	,450	,325	,313
control2	,449	,383	,327
overall6	,437		,327
easyuse4		,700	
easyuse3		,695	
control3	,341	,634	
easyuse5		,587	
easyuse6	,407	,563	
learn2	,351	,497	
satisf6		,449	
attract3			,880
satisf3			,715
overall3			,633

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood. Rotation Method: Varimax with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 5 iterations.

The three-factor model accounted for 54,76 % of items variance before the Varimax rotation. The first factor accounted for 41,90 % of items variance before the rotation. The Varimax rotated three-factor orthogonal model accounted for 48,61 % of items variance. The first factor accounted for 18,78, second factor 16,13 and third factor 13,71 % of items variance.

The factor loadings of the orthogonal three-factor model showed that many items had a moderately high factor loading on more than one factor. This indicated that the three-factor model was not simple structure of the sample 2. It was assumed that the oblique rotation of sample 2 could produce a simpler structure than orthogonal rotation. The maximum likelihood factor analysis for three factors was conducted to sample 2 with Direct oblim rotation method and delta value 0 (Table 14). The three-factor model accounted for 54,76 % of items variance before the Direct oblim rotation. The factor analysis with Oblique rotation for three factors produced much simpler structure than previous orthogonal rotated three factor model while all scale's items had moderately high or high factor loading only on one factor excluding items *satisf4* and *effi3*. However, it is common that some items could load on more than one



factor because Direct oblim rotation allows maximal correlation between factors (Metsämuuronen, 2003).

**Table 14. The items' factor loadings in three-factor model with Direct oblim rotation. The items of factor 1 and 3 are presented on grey background.**

**Pattern Matrix(a)**

	Factor		
	1	2	3
satis2_r	,724		
Easyuse1_r	,611		
satisf4	,590	-,353	
satisf1	,586		
effi4	,527		
overal2	,514		
overal5	,514		
overal4	,481		
overal1	,476		
effi3	,467		-,317
effi2	,453		
overal6	,408		
control1	,403		
control2	,377		
attract3		-,898	
satisf3		-,706	
overal3		-,591	
easyuse4			-,810
easyuse3			-,757
control3			-,631
easyuse5			-,617
easyuse6			-,526
learn2			-,474
satisf6			-,434

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood. Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

a Rotation converged in 9 iterations.

It should be noted that the first factor correlate negatively with the second factor ( $r = -.45$ ) and the third factor ( $r = -.65$ ) while Direct Oblim rotation method allowed extracted factors to correlate with each other. However, the second factor correlate positively with the third factor ( $r = .42$ ). The maximum likelihood factor analysis for two factors was conducted to sample 2 with Varimax and Oblim rotation but these analyses did not produce such a simple structure, which was found from three oblique rotated factor model (Appendix 11 and 12). In the simple structure of sample 2 14 items were loaded on the first factor, 3 items on the second factor and 7 items were loaded on third factor. The second and third factors' factor loadings of items were negative (Table 14). This was not a problem because negative factor loadings could be changed to positive if all loadings will be changed to same direction because all factor

loadings are vectors in factor space and their absolute values did not change in this procedure (Metsämuuronen, 2003).

The main purpose for this research was to develop a measurement instrument with which user experiences of Internet banking application customers could be estimated quantitatively. Unfortunately, the original simple structure of sample 1 was not found from factor analysis of sample 2. The simple structure of sample 1 was an orthogonal two-factor model where as the simple structure in sample 2 was a oblique rotated three-factor model. It was assumed that simple structure of sample 2 of the scale was more reliable than the simple structure of sample 1 because the sample 2 were gathered from real customers and the random sample methods were used in the data collection process. For these reasons sample 1 was re-analysed with factor structure of sample 2. In the next section the oblique rotated three-factor models and the reliabilities of the scales will be compared between samples.

### **3.3 COMPARISON OF SCALE'S STRUCTURES AND RELIABILITIES BETWEEN SAMPLE 1 AND SAMPLE 2**

In this section the simple structure of sample 2, which was oblique three-factor model, will be produced from sample 1 and both factor structures will be compared. In addition, reliability scores will be presented for both samples' overall and dimensions scales.

#### **3.3.1 THE THREE-FACTOR MODEL OF SAMPLE 1 WITH DIRECT OBLIM ROTATION**

The maximum likelihood factor analysis for three factors with Direct oblim rotation were conducted to 24 items of sample 1, which were selected based on the factor analysis of sample 2. (Table 15). The three-factor model accounted for 66,47 % of items variance before the Direct oblim rotation. The first factor accounted for 56,75 % of items variance before the rotation.

**Table 15. The three-factor model of sample 2 which was consisted of 24 items.**

Pattern Matrix <sup>a</sup>			
	Factor		
	1	2	3
ATTRACT3	,607		
SATISF3	,588		
OVERAL3	,491		-,412
LEARN2		,916	
EASYUSE6		,872	
CONTROL3		,762	
EASYUSE4		,674	
EASYUSE5		,617	
SATISF6		,610	
satisf2_r		,543	
EASYUSE3		,533	
SATISF4	,389	,490	
EFFI3		,481	
easyuse1_r		,473	
CONTROL2		,402	
CONTROL1	,302	,385	
EFFI2		,378	
OVERAL6			-,883
OVERAL5			-,876
OVERAL4			-,732
OVERAL2			-,669
OVERAL1	,367		-,540
EFFI1	,374		-,374
SATISF1		,311	-,353

Extraction Method: Maximum Likelihood.

Rotation Method: Oblimin with Kaiser Normalization.

a. Rotation converged in 25 iterations.

It should be noted that first factor correlate positively with the second factor ( $r = .56$ ) and negatively the third factor ( $r = -.68$ ) while Direct Oblim rotation method allowed extracted factors to correlate with each other. In addition, the second factor correlate negatively with the third factor ( $r = -.77$ ). The correlations between factors were approximately similar in sample 2. The factor analysis revealed almost the same structure from sample 1 than was found from sample 2.

The items of the first factor in sample 1 were the same items that were loaded on the second factor in the sample 2. Furthermore, seven items of second factor in sample 1 were the same as items, which were loaded on the third factor in sample 2 (easyofuse4, easyofuse3, control3, easyofuse5, easyofuse6, learn2, satisf6). However, the second factor of sample 1 included 7 items (satisf2\_r, effi3, easyusel\_r, satisf4, control2, effi2, control1), which were loaded on

the distinct third factor in sample 2. In general, it can be argued that simple structure of sample 2 was approximately found also from the sample 1. The three oblique factors, which were found from both samples, were named using those items that loaded strongest on the each factor (Table 16) (Metsämuuronen, 2003). The factor label is often determined by items with high factor loading (above 0.40) (Kline, 1996).

**Table 16. The items with highest factor loadings of the NUEQ's scale are described below in the table.**

Dimension	Sample	Code	Question	Factor loading
Satisfaction	2	Satisfy2_r	"It is often frustrating to take care of retail banking with the net bank"	0.724
Satisfaction	1	Overall16	"Net bank is inconsistent / consistent"	0.883
Satisfaction	2	Easyofuse1_r	"Net bank is annoying to use."	0.611
Satisfaction	1	Overall15	"Net bank is rigid / flexible"	0.876
Appearance	2	Attact3	"Net bank looks attractive and interesting."	0.898
Appearance	1	Attact3	"Net bank looks attractive and interesting."	0.607
Easy of use	2	Easyofuse4	"Finding help text is: difficult / easy"	0.810
Easy of use	1	Learn2	"Learning to use net bank is: difficult / easy"	0.916

The first factor of sample 2, which was the third factor of sample 1, was named as Satisfaction dimension. The item, which had the highest loading in sample 2 for this factor, was `satisf2_r` (0.724) and its question was: "It is often frustrating to take care of retail banking with the net bank. " The item, which had the highest factor loading in sample 1 for this factor, was `overall16` (0.883), and its question was: "Net bank is inconsistent / consistent ". The item, which had the second highest factor loading in sample 2 for this factor, was `easyofuse1_r` (0,611) and its question was: "Net bank is annoying to use". The item, which had the second highest factor loadings in sample 1 for this factor, was `overall15` (0.876), and its question was "Net bank is annoying to use".

The second factor of sample 2, which was the first factor in sample 1, was named as Appearance dimension. The item `attract3` had the highest factor loading (sample 1: 0.607, sample 2: 0.898) in both samples for this factor, and its question was: “Net bank looks attractive and interesting. “

The third factor contained those items, which measured the ease of use of net bank. The third factor of sample 2, which was the second factor in sample 1, was named as Ease of use dimension. The item, which had the highest factor loading in sample 2 for this factor, was `easyofuse4` (0.810) and its question was: “Finding help text is: difficult / easy “The item, which had the highest factor loading in sample 1 for this factor was `learn2` (0.916) and its question was: “Learning to use net bank is: difficult / easy “ The next section contains a detailed description of each of the three oblique factors reliabilities.

### **3.3.2 RELIABILITIES OF THE NUEQ’S SCALES IN SAMPLE 1 AND SAMPLE 2**

The reliability of the overall NUEQ’s scale, which consisted of 24 items, was estimated using Cronbach’s alpha for both samples. It is said that Cronbach’s alpha scores that are below 0.60 should not be accepted (Metsämuuronen, 2000a). The Cronbach’s alpha score of overall user experience scales if item was deleted from the scale for both samples are presented in Appendix 13. The reliability of the overall user experience (overall NUEQ’s scale) was high in both samples (Table 17). The Cronbach’s alpha score of overall user experience scale was 0.9656 in sample 1. The reliability analysis was conducted from 307 responses and 44 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. It should be noted that reliability scores revealed that overall scales reliability could have been improved by eliminating item `easeofuse5` from the scale, but reliability of the scale has improved only 0.001 by this operation.

**Table 17. Reliabilities of dimensions, number of items and responses of sample 1 and 2.**

<b>Dimension</b>	<b>Number of scale items</b>	<b>Sample</b>	<b>Reliability</b>	<b>Number of accepted responses</b>
Overall user experience	24	1	0.9656	307 (64,1 %)
Overall user experience	24	2	0.9373	440 (91,9 %)
Satisfaction	14	1	0.9553	332 (69,3 %)
Satisfaction	14	2	0.9125	447 (93,3 %)
Appearance	3	1	0.8332	340 ((71 %)
Appearance	3	2	0.8227	452 (94,3 %)
Ease of use	7	1	0.8986	321 (67 %)
Ease of use	7	2	0.8528	465 (97,1 %)

In addition, the reliability of overall user experience was high in sample 2, Cronbach's alpha score was .9373. The reliability analysis was conducted from 440 responses and 39 responses were ignored from the analysis because their missing values.

The reliability of Satisfaction dimension, which included 14 items, was also high in both samples. The Cronbach's alpha of Satisfaction scale was .9553 in sample 1. The reliability analysis was conducted from 332 responses and 19 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted for the scale ranged between items .9492 (*satisf4*) and .9532 (*control1*). The Satisfaction scale's reliability cannot be improved by eliminating any items from the scales. Furthermore, the Cronbach's alpha of Satisfaction scale was .9125 in sample 2. The reliability analysis was conducted from 447 responses and 32 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted for the scale ranged between items .9025 (*satisf4*) and .9102 (*satisf2\_r*).

The reliability of Appearance dimension, which included 3 items, was high in both samples. The Cronbach's alpha of Appearance scale was .8332 in sample 1. The reliability analysis was conducted from 340 responses and 11 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted for the scale ranged between items .7455 (*attract3*) and .7828 (*satisf3*). The Appearance scale's reliability could not be improved by eliminating any items from the scales. The Cronbach's alpha of Appearance scale was .8227 in sample 2. The reliability analysis was conducted from 452

responses and 27 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted for the scale item ranged between items .6430 (attract3) and .8308 (overall3).

The reliability of Ease of use dimension, which included 7 items, was high in both samples. The Cronbach's alpha of Ease of use scale was .8986 in sample 1. The reliability analysis was conducted from 321 responses and 30 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted for the scale ranged between items .8714 (easyofuse6) and .8956 (easyofuse5). The reliability of Ease of use scale could not be improved by eliminating any items from the scales. Furthermore, the Cronbach's alpha of Ease of use scale was .8528 in sample 2. The reliability analysis was conducted from 465 responses and 14 responses were ignored from the analysis because of their missing values. The Cronbach's alpha score if item was deleted from scale ranged between items .8189 (easyofuse3) and .8507 (satisf6).

#### 4 DISCUSSION

The main emphasis of this Discussion section is to evaluate results, compare them with the body of knowledge, point out conclusions, and reveal limitations of the study. This section also contains topics for further research and summarize the main findings. All this will be done in the following sections.

The review of the literature shows that this is the first detailed study on user experience scale development in Internet banking context. In addition, there is no widely accepted operational measure of user experience of Internet banking. As it was remarked in the Introduction section, HCI studies related to business to consumer applications are infancy in particular in the Internet banking context (Lindgaard & Dudek, 2003). Furthermore, as was noted in the Introduction, usability of Internet banking is poorly studied in academic literature. Majority of studies related to usability of Internet banking are carried out by consultants and reports are mostly confidential. This fact makes it difficult for a researcher to know what has been studied recently in the field of Internet banking.

However, Internet banking, usability and scale development has been studied separately for many years and previous results can be compared to the results of the current research. This dialogue between results from this study and body of knowledge will be done in the next section.

## 4.1 RESULTS AND EVALUATIONS

The objectives of the research were to reveal the structure of user experience of Internet banking and develop a scale for which the user experience could be measured quantitatively. These objectives will be analysed in detail in this section. This section is divided to two parts. First, the factor analysis results are compared with the body of knowledge. Second, the NUEQ's reliability scores are compared to other scales.

### 4.1.1 FACTOR ANALYSES

The results of the current research showed that the concept of user experience in Internet banking context consisted of three underlying dimensions, which correlated strongly with each other. This conclusion based on a simple structure that was found from the both samples. The explorative factor analysis of the NUEQ's scale indicated the simple structure where three-factor model accounted for 66,47 % of sample 1 and 54,76 % of sample 2 of items variance.

Previous studies predicted that user satisfaction is a construct of several factors (Bailey & Pearson, 1983). The results of study indicated that the user experience of Internet banking had three underlying factors: 1) Perceived Satisfaction 2) Perceived Aesthetics, and 3) Perceived Ease of use. Furthermore, earlier work on business to consumer applications showed a strong correlation between perceived aesthetics and perceived usability (Tractinsky et al., 2000). This is consistent with the results of the current study while perceived appearance and perceived ease of use factors correlate strongly with each other in both samples (sample 1:  $r = .56$  and sample 2:  $r = .42$ ). It was surprising that Satisfaction dimension of NUEQ's scale correlated negatively with Appearance and Ease of use dimensions in both samples (sample 1:  $r = -.68$ ,  $r = -.77$  and sample 2:  $r = -.45$ ,  $r = -.65$ ). However, these negative correlations of factors can be explained with negative factor loadings of Appearance and Ease of use dimensions. As was noted that negative factor loadings are not problems because negative factor loadings could be changed to positive if all loadings will be changed to same direction because all factor loadings are vectors in factor space and their absolute values do not change in this procedure (Metsämuuronen, 2003). In addition, sum variables of all dimensions were compared and all correlations between sum variables were positive in both samples.

The results of the study were not consisted with results of the PUTQ scale. Lin et al., (1997) alleged that concepts of user satisfaction and perceived usability consisted of eight different dimensions, which can be assessed with the PUTQ's scale. However, their argument lacked of empirical evidence while they did not conduct factor analysis for their scale. It can be said that their eight-factor model is weak because the lack of empirical evidence. In contrast, this



study included detailed reporting on how the NUEQ's scale was developed based on factor analyses and scale's items factor loadings. However, theoretical assumption of Lin, et al., (1997) that states that the factors of user experience correlate strongly with each other, were empirical proved for the results of this study.

#### **4.1.2 RELIABILITY ANALYSES**

The results of the study showed high reliability scores in all scales of NUEQ. The NUEQ's scale reliability scores for the individual scales ranged between .82 and .96 with four being greater than .90. The reliability scores of the overall NUEQ's scale were higher than .90 in both samples. In addition, the reliability scores of Satisfaction dimensions were higher than .90 in both samples. Furthermore, the reliability scores of Appearance and Ease of use dimensions were higher than .80 in both samples. The reliability overall NUEQ's scale were in the same level .94 as the QUIS 5.0 in the sample 2 and higher .97 in the sample 1. In addition, the reliability of three-items Appearance dimension of the NUEQ was high in both samples while reliability scores ranged between .8227 to .8332. It should be noted that a short scale often has poor reliability (Metsämuuronen, 2002). Furthermore, the work of J. Chin et al., (1988) have limitations while reliabilities of five-subscale of QUIS were not reported in contrast to the current study. In this perspective, it can be argued that the overall NUEQ's scale and its dimensional scales are reliable.

#### **4.2 LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

The current research had a several limitations, which could have affected the results. The limitations could be divided to five categories based on sources of possible errors: 1) factor analysis 2) sampling methods, and 3) multicollinearity 4) survey methods 5) generalization of the results. These errors will be analysed in this order.

The first limitation is related to the expected scale structure, which was presented in the Methods section. The security and memorability dimension consisted of only one question, which made it impossible that they could have created separate factors in the factor analysis. been an own factor in factor analysis. The dimensions should have had 5 to 10 questions per each dimension in order to evaluate how the dimensions would load on factors in the factor analysis.

The second limitation related to survey sampling methods. The biggest limitation, which could have affected results of sample 1, was the fact that a random sampling was not used in collecting sample 1 because every user has an opportunity to decide whether to answer or refuse to answer to the NUEQ (Dillman, 2000). However, the gender distribution of sample 1

was compared to the whole user population and it was exactly the same. Furthermore, sample 2 could have suffered from coverage error because the majority of data was collected during the same day (Dillman, 2000). Sample 1 had less coverage error because majority of data was collected during one and half month. The measurement error was not a problem because the reliability scores were high in both samples, but it was possible that the created NUEQ's scale could have had multicollinearity limitations.

The third limitations in the current research related to multicollinearity. It is said that majority of multivariate analyses are sensitive for this phenomenon in which variables and their combinations correlate strongly with each other ( $r > 0.90$ ) (Metsämuuronen, 2003). In the current research it meant that the reliability of the overall scale was too high and subscales correlate strongly with each other, which indicated that the overall scale could have included many scales that measure the same phenomenon. In other words, three subscales such as Satisfaction, Appearance and Ease of use could replicate the same information concerning user experience.

The fourth limitations in the current research related to survey methods in general. Wilson & Sasse (2004) criticize that user's personal experience cannot be captured with subjective assessment such as survey questionnaire methods because questionnaire forces the user to reflect his or her experiences only through the selected words which may not define his or her experience. Furthermore, they argue that subjective assessment, which is conduct after the test, might include memory biases such as primary and recency effects. In the current research it was attempted to avoid these biases by locating the questionnaires to the log out page of Internet-based banking applications. It was assumed that with this procedure the authentic user experience could be captured. Furthermore, the objective measurements such as EEG and fMRI would be difficult to utilize with the real customers of Nordea for practical reasons.

Generalization of the results was the fifth limitation of the study. The data was gathered only from the pilot users and customers who used Internet-based banking applications of Nordea Bank Finland Plc. Confirming the oblique three-dimensional structure user experience from the current study requires that the NUEQ would have be used to measure user experience of customers of other competitor banks as well in order genelalize results to the whole customers population in Finland.

#### 4.3 SUGGESTIONS FOR FURTHER RESEARCH

The review of the literature shows that this is the first detailed study on user experience of Internet banking where two different Internet-based banking applications were compared. Four suggestions for further research could be presented.

The first suggestion is that the developed NUEQ's scale and the simple structure could be tested with confirmative factor analysis. The confirmative factor analysis could reveal how a new sample could support the three-factor model. In this analysis the statistical significance tests could be applied.

The second suggestion is that the developed scales of the NUEQ could be used to assess the corporate customers' user experience of Internet-based banking applications. It should be noted that the current study concentrate only on the user experience of retail banking customers. Furthermore, the NUEQ's scale could be modified to measure the user experience of mobile banking applications.

The third suggestion is that the user experience of customer toward the new Internet banking interface could be measured by collecting samples before and after the launch of a new version of net bank. This procedure makes it possible to evaluate and compare the user experience dimensions before and after the launch. In addition, it can be evaluated how well the user experience of the pilot users predict the user experience of the real customers after the new version of net bank is launched.

The fourth suggestion is related to validity of the scale. No validity evaluation was done in the current study. In other words, the NUEQ's scale has not been carefully validated. It would be useful to analyse a predict and a criterion orientated validity of the scale (Metsämuuronen, 2003). The predict validity of the scale could mean for instance that how well the NUEQ's scale predicts the dissatisfaction or satisfaction in general towards the bank. The criterion orientated validity could mean how well scores of the NUEQ scale correlate with scores of other psychometrically tested and reliable scales.

#### 4.4 CONCLUSIONS

In this thesis a new conceptual perspective on how to measure user experience in the Internet banking context was introduced. Furthermore, this thesis operationalized user experience of Internet banking by developing a new measurement instrument, Nordea User Experience Questionnaire (NUEQ) for empirical testing. The NUEQ was psychometrically tested with two samples involving 351 and 479 participants. The results indicated that the user experience of Internet banking was a construct of three underlying dimensions: 1) Satisfaction, 2) Appearance, and 3) Ease of use. Furthermore, the reliability of the NUEQ was high which indicated that the results were reliable.

As was noted in the Introduction section a clear user experience notion is needed where relationships between satisfaction, appeal, perceived and actual usability would be determined

(Lindgaard & Dudek, 2003). The contribution of the study for research of HCI was the revealed three-dimensional model of user experience of Internet banking. Furthermore, Bailey & Pearson (1983) comment that the HCI research needs a complete and valid set of factors and instrument that measures that phenomenon. The main result of the study was the NUEQ's scale which consisted of reliable set of factors that measure the user experience of Internet banking efficiently.

As was remarked in the Introduction section the usage of Internet is rapidly increased in Finland. For instance, 71 % of 15 to 65 years old Finns used regularly Internet. In addition, 60 % of Finns uses banking services via the Internet regularly. It can be seen that technological limitations do not create a problem for companies because services of e-commerce are constantly increasing. However, it seems likely that human cognitive limitations, which do not evolve as quickly as technologies, might be a bottleneck in designing for future electronic services. In addition, when markets of electronic services mature a good user experience of customer could be a competitive advantage, with which companies could differentiate their products and services. From this perspective, it could be argued that evaluation of user experience and different user experience scales will be likely needed in the future.

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All appendixes are confidential and for that reason here are only appendixes' headings.

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